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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Martinez ORIGINAL DATE 1/19/2019
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____
SHORT TITLE Admin Office of the Courts Director Funds SB 198
ANALYST Torres

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

| Estimated Revenue | | | Recurring or Nonrecurring | Fund Affected |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| FY19 | FY20 | FY21 | | |
| \$205.0 | Undetermined | Undetermined | Recurring | Various |

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Not Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 198 adds a subsection to section 34-9-3 NMSA 1978, which outlines the duties of the director of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), to allow the director to apply and receive public and private funds, including federal funds, for AOC operations.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Bill 198 would yield a slight increase in revenues received by the judicial branch, according to AOC in 2017. AOC has received federal grants and transfers of funds from other state offices in the past. The new, occasional revenue that is anticipated is payment for training and certification through the court services programs administered by AOC. Currently, if additional revenue is received, an appropriation is required for expenditure. In 2017, AOC projected that it would generate \$205 thousand for use in its operating budgets under the expanded authority of Senate Bill 198, for FY19.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to AOC, the new language in Senate Bill 142 expands the authority of the director of the AOC to more closely align with the authority described in almost every executive department's enabling statutes. It provides express statutory authority for the AOC director to not only receive federal and other state funds through grants and agreements, but to receive funds from other public entities such as municipal courts or other states. These revenues would result from training fees or similar services such as the language access educational program sponsored by the judiciary, and would be used to offset AOC administration and training costs.

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