

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7496**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1394

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 4, 2003

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** State Employee Bill of Rights.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Becker

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill expands the State Employee Bill of Rights to include state employee contacts with the General Assembly or its staff. It permits a state employee to attend and testify before a legislative committee upon the request of the chairman of the committee. The bill requires state agency heads to annually file a statement with the Legislative Council concerning policies governing the agency's response to legislative requests.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2003.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** Under current law, employers commit a Class A infraction if they unjustly dismiss, withhold salary increases, reassign, transfer, deny a promotion, or demote a person for reporting in writing any violations of federal, state, or local laws or regulations. This bill would add to this list sanctions against any employer if the employer delays or in any way interferes with an employee responding to a legislative request by a member or staff of the General Assembly.

If additional court cases occur, revenue to the state General Fund may increase if infraction judgments and court fees are collected. The maximum judgment for a Class A infraction is \$10,000, which is deposited in the state General Fund. If court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, a court fee of \$70 would be assessed. 70% of the court fee would be deposited in the state General Fund if the case is filed in a court of record or 55% if the case is filed in a city or town court.

The impact of requiring each agency to annually file with the Legislative Council a statement describing the

policies of the agency with respect to a legislative request would have minor or no fiscal impact.

The impact of permitting a state employees to attend and testify before a legislative committee upon the request of the chairman of the committee would have minor or no fiscal impact.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** If additional court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources: (1) The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$70 court fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund. (2) A \$3 fee would be assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county law enforcement continuing education fund. (3) A \$2 jury fee is assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county user fee fund to supplement the compensation of jury members.

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Chuck Mayfield, 317-232-4825