

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6031

BILL NUMBER: HB 1016

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 19, 2008

BILL AMENDED: Jan 24, 2008

SUBJECT: Unclaimed Money.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. VanDenburgh

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Tallian

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill requires the Treasurer of State to return certain unclaimed money directly to the claimant instead of returning the money to a court clerk to present the unclaimed money to the claimant. The bill also removes a requirement that a claimant give notice to the Attorney General of proceedings on a claim.

Effective Date: July 1, 2008.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) To the extent that the Attorney General wishes to appear to dispute a claim against the Abandoned Property Fund, there could be an increase in administrative costs to the Attorney General in determining the date, time, and location of the proceeding on the claim.

Explanation of State Revenues: To the extent unclaimed money is returned to a claimant earlier than under current law, there could be a decrease in interest earned on those funds as they are held in the Abandoned Property Fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: This bill will result in an indeterminable decrease in administrative expenses for the local court clerks. The savings realized will ultimately depend upon the decrease in the number of payments that would have been processed by the local court clerk's office. The number of abandoned property claims processed by local court clerks each year is unknown. Currently, the Treasurer of State sends payment by check to the clerk, who then sends a payment by check to the claimant. Therefore, although the court will still make the determination for the claimant's entitlement to the funds, the clerk's office will no longer have to process a check for the payment.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Attorney General; Treasurer of State.

Local Agencies Affected: All trial courts; all court clerks.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Adam Brown, 317-232-9854.