

FISCAL NOTE

HB 691 - SB 1094

April 7, 1997

SUMMARY OF BILL: Transfers all attorney positions of the various offices, departments, agencies, boards, commissions or instrumentalities of the state to the sole supervision of the Attorney General and Reporter, except the office of legal services of the General Assembly. The transfer includes all legal support staff, office and computer equipment, materials, and supplies used by such attorneys and support staff, and all agency records pertinent to litigation or other legal representation of such entity. The bill allows the Attorney General to assign attorneys to departments and requires the department of assignation to provide suitable office space. The compensation schedules for the assigned attorney positions shall continue to be effective. Since the attorneys transferred will report to the Attorney General, the bill deletes a provision requiring the Attorney General to provide written permission for attorneys to represent the State in litigation or cases under the direction and control of the Attorney General.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

State Expenditures - Net Impact - Less than \$100,000

Assumes an increase in state expenditures for any moving expenses and a cost to establish suitable office space for those attorneys assigned to the office of the Attorney General and to establish suitable office space for those attorneys assigned to a commissioner, agency, board, commission or instrumentality. Such cost will depend on the standards in use and established by the office of Attorney General. Also assumes a potential decrease in state expenditures from consolidation of attorneys and support staff. Assumes approximately 159 attorneys plus support staff will be transferred to the office of the Attorney General.

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency indicates that federal funds from the Wallop/Breaux and Pitman/Robinson Acts may be jeopardized due to a possible diversion of TWRA funds. In FY 1996-97 The Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency received \$7,664,177 from these two federal sources.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director