

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 680 - SB 648

March 5, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires judges to allow any person to videotape or otherwise record any public court proceeding. Requires all proceedings in juvenile courts to be audio and video recorded. These recordings shall be available to the interested parties in all public juvenile court proceedings and in certain other proceedings with permission of the court.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$1,000,000/One-Time*

Assumptions:

- Requiring all juvenile courts to record all proceedings, both by audio and video, would result in a one-time increase in local government expenditures of approximately \$950,000. There is at least one juvenile court in each county. According to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the cost to equip each courtroom with audio and video equipment would be approximately \$10,000 per courtroom.
- Some juvenile courts may have audio capability if it is also a General Sessions court; however, the AOC is not aware of any court with video capability.

*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/lsc