MILWAUKEE COUNTY FISCAL NOTE FORM

DATE: November 21, 2025

Original Fiscal Note ☒

Substitute Fiscal Note ☐

SUBJECT: A resolution opposing state legislation to increase court fees and surcharges that disproportionately harm low-income individuals and communities.

FISCAL EFFECT:

☒ No Direct County Fiscal Impact

  ☒ Existing Staff Time Required

☐ Increase Operating Expenditures
(If checked, check one of two boxes below)

  ☐ Absorbed Within Agency's Budget

  ☐ Not Absorbed Within Agency's Budget

☐ Decrease Operating Expenditures

☐ Increase Operating Revenues

☐ Decrease Operating Revenues

☐ Increase Capital Expenditures

☐ Decrease Capital Expenditures

☐ Increase Capital Revenues

☐ Decrease Capital Revenues

☐ Use of contingent funds

Indicate below the dollar change from budget for any submission that is projected to result in increased/decreased expenditures or revenues in the current year.

	Expenditure or Revenue Category	Current Year	Subsequent Year
Operating Budget	Expenditure	$0	$0
	Revenue	$0	$0
	Net Cost	$0	$0
Capital Improvement Budget	Expenditure	$0	$0
	Revenue	$0	$0
	Net Cost	$0	$0

DESCRIPTION OF FISCAL EFFECT

In the space below, you must provide the following information. Attach additional pages if necessary.

A. Briefly describe the nature of the action that is being requested or proposed, and the new or changed conditions that would occur if the request or proposal were adopted.

B. State the direct costs, savings or anticipated revenues associated with the requested or proposed action in the current budget year and how those were calculated. [1] If annualized or subsequent year fiscal impacts are substantially different from current year impacts, then those shall be stated as well. In addition, cite any one-time costs associated with the action, the source of any new or additional revenues (e.g. State, Federal, user fee or private donation), the use of contingent funds, and/or the use of budgeted appropriations due to surpluses or change in purpose required to fund the requested action.

C. Discuss the budgetary impacts associated with the proposed action in the current year. A statement that sufficient funds are budgeted should be justified with information regarding the amount of budgeted appropriations in the relevant account and whether that amount is sufficient to offset the cost of the requested action. If relevant, discussion of budgetary impacts in subsequent years also shall be discussed. Subsequent year fiscal impacts shall be noted for the entire period in which the requested or proposed action would be implemented when it is reasonable to do so (i.e. a five-year lease agreement shall specify the costs/savings for each of the five years in question). Otherwise, impacts associated with the existing and subsequent budget years should be cited.

D. Describe any assumptions or interpretations that were utilized to provide the information on this form.

A. Approval of this resolution--opposing state legislation that would increase court fees and surcharges disproportionately impacting low-income individuals and communities--authorizes the Office of Government Affairs to communicate the County's position to the Governor, members of the Wisconsin State Legislature, and the Wisconsin Counties Association. Milwaukee County is currently registered in support of AB 320 (as of September 23, 2025) and SB 333 (as of June 23, 2025). Adoption of this resolution would direct the Office of Government Affairs to withdraw that support and instead register the County in opposition. The Wisconsin Counties Association is also currently registered in support of these bills.

B. There are no direct costs associated with this resolution. Existing staff time would be needed to communicate the contents of this resolution to the relevant state representatives and agencies.

C. The Office of Strategy, Budget and Performance estimates that, if enacted, AB 320/SB 333 would increase County-retained fees by approximately $4 million in 2026, with some potential for growth every five years beginning in 2030 due to inflation indexing of certain fees. This estimate assumes that Milwaukee County's criminal and civil case volumes continue to follow recent trends and that 2026 revenues from other County-retained fees unaffected by AB 320/SB 333 remain consistent with their 2022-2024 averages. This resolution does not authorize the expenditure of any additional funds.

D. No assumptions were made.

Department/Prepared By Sandra J. Saltzstein, Research Services Division, Office of the Comptroller

Authorized Signature *Sandra J. Saltzstein*

Did DAS-Fiscal Staff Review? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Did CBDP Review?[2] ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Required

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[1] If it is assumed that there is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action, then an explanatory statement that justifies that conclusion shall be provided. If precise impacts cannot be calculated, then an estimate or range should be provided.

[2] Community Business Development Partners' review is required on all professional service and public work construction contracts.