



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

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Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
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November 16, 2020

Honorable Kim Schofield
State Representative
509-E Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill (LC 36 4450)

Dear Representative Schofield:

This bill would allow members of the General Assembly to obtain records subject to Georgia's Open Records Act at no charge from executive branch agencies. The member would be required to request the records in writing, stating that the information is required for legislative duties or constituent services.

We are unable to provide a reliable estimate of the fiscal impact of the bill, though it is expected to impact both revenue and costs of state agencies. The fees allowed by state law generate revenue to offset agency costs. They also serve as an incentive for requesters and agencies to work together to narrow requests to the items more relevant to the requester. Without a cost consideration, it is reasonable to expect requests to become more numerous and to involve a larger number of records. All requested records are reviewed by agency personnel to determine if any redaction is necessary based on O.C.G.A. §50-18-72. Depending on the nature and amount of records requested, the personnel costs for state agencies would be proportionally affected.

Sincerely,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Kelly Farr, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/KF/mt