

PREPARED BY: Kenneth Boggs
DATE PREPARED: February 24, 2025
PHONE: 471-0050

LB 493

Revision: 00

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)

	FY 2025-26		FY 2026-27	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	\$194,298		\$197,752	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$194,298		\$197,752	

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

LB 493 adopts the Uniform Public Expression Protection Act (UPEPA).

The bill primarily seeks to establish protections for individuals against certain types of lawsuits, commonly referred to as SLAPPs (Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation).

The Supreme Court has stated that LB 493 will have minimal fiscal impact and will not require any additional resources.

The Attorney General's Office projects that LB493 will be frequently utilized by defendants in cases litigated by the office, resulting in a substantial increase in workload. The cumulative time and resources required to respond to these motions will necessitate the addition of a full-time attorney to manage the increased caseload. Additionally, legal expenses are expected to rise due to the bill's provisions allowing for special discovery, which will require the Attorney General to represent the state and its agencies in these proceedings. The agency estimates a general fund impact of \$194,298 in FY 2025-26 and \$197,752 in FY 2026-27.

There is no basis to disagree with the estimates at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 493	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Supreme Court	
REVIEWED BY:	Jacob Leaver	DATE: 2/24/2025	PHONE: (402) 471-4173
COMMENTS: Concur with the Supreme Court's minimal fiscal impact as a result of LB 493.			

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 493	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Attorney General	
REVIEWED BY:	Jacob Leaver	DATE: 1/29/2025	PHONE: (402) 471-4173
COMMENTS: No basis to dispute the fiscal impact to the Attorney General as a result of LB 493.			

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

2025

LB⁽¹⁾ 493

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ Attorney General

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Bebe Strnad Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 1-28-25 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402-471-2687

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2025-26</u>		<u>FY 2026-27</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	<u>194,298</u>	<u></u>	<u>197,752</u>	<u></u>
CASH FUNDS	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
FEDERAL FUNDS	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
OTHER FUNDS	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>194,298</u>	<u></u>	<u>197,752</u>	<u></u>

Explanation of Estimate:

LB493 is likely to be invoked frequently by defendants in cases litigated by the Attorney General's Office. The cumulative time and effort required to respond will be significant. In the aggregate, a full-time attorney will be required to handle the volume of additional work generated. Furthermore, an increase in legal expenses will occur, particularly given the added cost of special discovery authorized by the bill, including the Attorney General representing the State and all of its agencies in such discovery.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
	<u>25-26</u>	<u>26-27</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Assistant Attorney General	<u>1.0</u>	<u>1.0</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>103,000</u>
Benefits.....			<u>44,298</u>	<u>44,752</u>
Operating.....			<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Travel.....			<u></u>	<u></u>
Capital outlay.....			<u></u>	<u></u>
Aid.....			<u></u>	<u></u>
Capital improvements.....			<u></u>	<u></u>
TOTAL.....			<u>194,298</u>	<u>197,752</u>

2025

FISCAL NOTE

Prepared by: (3) Eric Asboe Date Prepared: (4) 2/22/2025 Phone: (5) 402-326-9215

	FY 2025-26		FY 2026-27	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

Minimal fiscal impact to provide judicial education. Any potential impact on judicial workload from an increase in cases cannot be determined at this time. No additional resources required.

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2025-26	2026-27
	<u>25-26</u>	<u>26-27</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....				
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....				