LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6387 NOTE PREPARED: Dec 6, 2022

BILL NUMBER: HB 1532 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Landlord-tenant Relations Concerning Bed Bugs.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Porter BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & Local

 $\overline{\underline{X}}$ DEDICATED FEDERAL

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires a tenant to inform the landlord if the tenant reasonably suspects the presence of bed bugs. It requires the landlord to have the dwelling unit inspected by a qualified inspector. It requires the landlord, after receipt of the inspection report, to inform the tenant whether the dwelling unit contains bed bugs. It requires the landlord to begin reasonable measures to treat the bed bug presence if an inspection indicates the presence of bed bugs. It establishes responsibilities for the tenant and landlord concerning notice, access, and costs. It allows the State Chemist to adopt rules concerning certain matters. It also requires the state chemist to establish requirements for the certification of a bed bug inspector. This bill defines certain terms.

Effective Date: July 1, 2023.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill would increase the workload for the State Chemist. The State Chemist may adopt rules concerning bed bug inspections and pesticide application. In addition, the State Chemist would need to create requirements for certification of a bed bug inspector.

Explanation of State Revenues: This bill may result in an increase in court cases as it allows tenants to collect actual damages from a landlord who fail to follow the requirements concerning bed bugs. Additionally, a landlord may have a cause of action if a tenant does not provide reasonable access or fails to comply with requests for inspection or treatment of the dwelling.

Court Fee Revenue: A civil costs fee of \$100 would be assessed when a civil case is filed. If additional civil actions occur and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund may increase. A portion of the fee revenue is deposited into the State User Fee Fund.

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Additional fees may be collected at the discretion of the judge and depending upon the particular type of case.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: Court Fee Revenue: If additional civil actions occur and court fees are collected, local governments would receive additional revenue from both a portion of the civil costs fee and other fees that would be collected.

State Agencies Affected: State Chemist.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Nate Bodnar, 317-234-9476.

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