Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: HB1473

Bill Subtitle: TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE PROCEDURE FOR A NAME CHANGE; TO REQUIRE A NAME CHANGE PETITION TO BE VERIFIED; AND TO ENSURE CONTENTS OF A NAME CHANGE COURT FILE ARE REDACTED.

Basic Change:

Sponsors: Rep. Dalby and Sen. Irvin

HB1473 clarifies the procedures for the judicial order of a name change. HB1473 specifies that a court shall include specific information in an order granting a change of name including:

- Petitioner's prior name;
- Petitioner's date of birth;
- Appropriate identifying information including social security number and driver's license number;
 and
- Petitioner's new name.

HB1473 requires the clerk of the court to deliver unredacted copies of the order for name change to:

- The Arkansas Crime Information Center;
- Arkansas Driver Control; and
- The Division of Vital Records if requested by the petitioner.

HB1473 also requires:

- The clerk to redact all identifying information in a case except for the petitioner's prior name and new name;
- The clerk to change the style of the case to reflect both the new and old names; and
- The court to seal the case file upon clear and convincing evidence that the petitioner is endangered.

Revenue Impact :

None.

Taxpayer Impact :

Procedures for the judicial change of name would be clarified.

Resources Required:

None.

Time Required:

Adequate time is provided for implementation.

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Procedural Changes:

None.

Other Comments:

None.

Legal Analysis:

HB1473 would benefit from an amendment to change the reference to "Arkansas Driver Control" to the "Office of Driver Services - Driver Control."

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