

## **Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB505

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed  
**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Mullin

**3. Committee:** House Committee for Courts of Justice

**4. Title:** Civil actions filed on behalf of multiple persons

**5. Summary:** The proposed bill provides that a circuit court may enter an order joining, coordinating, consolidating, or transferring civil actions upon finding that separate civil actions brought by a plaintiff on behalf of multiple similarly situated persons involve common questions of law or fact and arise out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or occurrences.

The bill requires the Supreme Court to promulgate rules no later than November 1, 2022, governing such actions. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2023.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate (see Item #8)

**8. Fiscal Implications:** According to the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court (OES), the proposed bill could lead to a number of additional cases being filed. However, the fiscal impact is indeterminate for it is not possible to estimate the scope of potential new cases.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Courts

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** None