

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1338-01
Bill No.: HB 574
Subject: Children and Minors; Courts; Family Law; Family Services Division
Type: Original
Date: March 7, 2005

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of Administration - Children’s Trust Fund**, the **Department of Social Services**, and the **Office of State Courts Administrator** assume this proposal would not fiscally impact their agencies.

Officials from the **Department of Health and Senior Services (DOH)** assume this proposal limits information reported by the Department of Social Services (DOS) Child Abuse/Neglect (CA/N) Central Registry, and in turn limits CA/N information reported as part of a background screening provided by the Family Care Safety Registry. This proposal would restrict the release of child abuse and neglect information for an individual added to the CA/N registry to only findings that directly resulted in the termination of parental rights of the individual (applicant). All other substantiated findings would only be released upon court order or to staff of DOS, the victim of the report or to the alleged perpetrator named in the report.

The Family Care Safety Registry utilizes an electronic computer interface to report Child Abuse/Neglect (CA/N) information as part of a background screening. The changes proposed in this legislation would require that the interface be modified to restrict the reporting of information from the CA/N Central Registry.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

This legislation would not be expected to fiscally impact the operations of DOH. If an impact were to result, funds to support the program would be sought through the appropriations process.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

DESCRIPTION

This proposal changes the laws regarding reports of child abuse and neglect which resulted in the termination of parental rights. The Family Support Division of the Department of Social Services is required to determine if an applicant for state or federal funds for providing child care services in their home has had their parental rights terminated due to a finding of child abuse or neglect and to deny their application.

The Children's Division of the department is authorized to release to certain individuals, businesses, or agencies only information on substantiated reports which resulted in the termination of the parental rights of that person. Currently, all substantiated reports can be provided. A court can authorize the disclosure of information regarding substantiated reports not resulting in the termination of parental rights if it determines that the release of the information is required because of the severity of the allegations, the sufficiency of evidence for substantiation, and the immediate risk to the safety of children if the person's employment puts him or her in contact with children.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Social Services
Office of State Courts Administrator
Office of Administration
Department of Health and Senior Services



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Director
March 7, 2005