

Fiscal Estimate - 2003 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 03-0355/1	Introduction Number AB-73
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Subject

Adoptive placement of abandoned babies

Fiscal Effect

State:

No State Fiscal Effect
 Indeterminate
 Increase Existing Appropriations
 Increase Existing Revenues
 Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
 Decrease Existing Appropriations
 Decrease Existing Revenues

 Yes No
 Create New Appropriations
 Decrease Costs

Local:

No Local Government Costs
 Indeterminate

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives
DHFS 3/24/2003

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Subject Adoptive placement of abandoned babies		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill includes several provisions in regards to the termination of parental rights and adoptive placement of a newborn child whose custody has been relinquished by his or her parent to a law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician (EMT), or hospital staff member. First, it requires that if the court determines that the infant should be maintained in custody, guardianship and legal custody of the child will be transferred to DHFS, a child welfare agency, or a county department. The court would then order the agency to place the child for adoption. The agency must also require the proposed adoptive parent to sign a statement indicating that he or she is aware that there is no guarantee that the adoption will be finalized. Finally, the district attorney or corporation counsel would be required to file a petition for the involuntary termination of parental rights no earlier than 30 days after the date of the relinquishment and no later than 60 days after the court found the infant to be relinquished.

This bill could increase the number of children placed for adoption with county human services or social services departments or with DHFS. If the number of children placed for adoption increases, costs will increase for counties and for DHFS, which operates the child protective services system in Milwaukee County and the state special needs adoption program. However, given the very small number of cases relinquished to law enforcement officers, EMTs and hospital staff, it is expected that there will be little change in the number of children placed for adoption, and, therefore, little or no increase in costs.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications