

Fiscal Estimate - 2019 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 19-5001/2	Introduction Number SB-730
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Description
 prohibiting the out-of-home placement of a child with a person with a record of a crime against a child

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	

Agency/Prepared By DCF/ ELIZABETH ELGAR (608) 422-6344	Authorized Signature Kim Swissdorf (608) 422-6351	Date 2/18/2020
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 2/18/2020

LRB Number	19-5001/2	Introduction Number	SB-730	Estimate Type	Updated
Description prohibiting the out-of-home placement of a child with a person with a record of a crime against a child					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill prohibits the out-of-home placement of a child with a nonparent relative or other unlicensed person if that relative or person has been convicted, pled no contest, or had a charge that constitutes child abuse against him or her dropped as a result of a plea agreement. This bill also prohibits subsidized guardianships and licensing of child welfare agencies, foster homes, group homes, and shelter care facilities under the Children's Code if the license applicant, an employee, or a nonclient resident has pled no contest to a charge that constitutes child abuse or had a charge that constitutes child abuse against them dropped as the result of a plea agreement.

This bill would have costs for the Department of Children and Families related to significant changes to policy, procedures, training, forms, and the eWISACWIS statewide child welfare information system.

Changes to policies, procedures, and forms could be absorbed using existing staff resources.

At least five child welfare trainings would need to be updated at a total cost of approximately \$100,000 to \$150,000. The bill affects trainings for caseworkers, foster care licensing, Kinship Care, and subsidized guardianship. Implementing these training updates would require postponing planned updates to other trainings.

Child welfare licensing staff would also be impacted, but the effects are indeterminate at this time.

Whenever a law change affects a central function of the child welfare system, there is potential for significant costs to the eWISACWIS statewide child welfare information system. DCF's initial estimate was based on information from eWISACWIS technical staff and assumed significant process changes to eWISACWIS. After further discussions between technical and program staff it was determined that the changes in this bill could be accomplished at a smaller cost than originally estimated. For example, while this bill requires significant changes to the provider licensing process, most forms for that process are completed outside of eWISACWIS so this change would not require significant system changes or development of a new licensing process in the system. Our revised estimate is that the cost to update eWISACWIS would be approximately \$500,000. Implementing the necessary eWISACWIS updates for this bill would require reprioritizing other system updates planned in the system release schedule.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications