Fiscal Estimate - 2005 Session

Original Updated	Corrected	Supplemental			
LRB Number 05-1978/1	Introduction Number AE	3-213			
Subject					
Termination of parental rights; manufacturing	methamphetamine with child present				
Fiscal Effect					
State: No State Fiscal Effect Indeterminate Increase Existing Appropriations Appropriations Appropriations Appropriations Appropriations Appropriations Appropriations Appropriations Create New Appropriations Create New Appropriations Indeterminate Increase Costs Appropriations Create New Appropriations State: Indeterminate Appropriations Increase Existing Revenues Appropriations Decrease Costs Indeterminate Increase Costs Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations					
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature Date				
DHFS/ Nicole Groth (608) 266-9364	Andy Forsaith (608) 266-7684 4/12/2005				

Fiscal Estimate Narratives DHFS 4/12/2005

LRB Number	05-1978/1	Introduction Number	AB-213	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Termination of parental rights; manufacturing methamphetamine with child present					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a person's parental rights may be involuntarily terminated (TPR) on various grounds, including abandonment, child abuse, and commission of a serious felony against one of the person's children. This bill creates the grounds for a person's parental rights to be involuntarily terminated if that parent has manufactured methamphetamine with a child of the parent present. Under this bill, these grounds will be established by proving that the parent has been convicted of manufacturing methamphetamine and that the child was present when the methamphetamine was manufactured.

While this bill creates the grounds for a termination of parental rights, the court or a jury would still need to determine if the grounds are met, and the court would have to determine if termination of parental rights is, among other factors, in the best interests of the child. This bill may increase the TPRs achieved for children whose parents are convicted of manufacturing methamphetamine. An increase in the number of TPRs could result in an increase in the Department's foster care and adoption assistance caseload and county foster care caseloads. However, it is assumed that the number of TPR petitions based on the grounds that the parent has manufactured methamphetamine with a child of the parent present will be small. Therefore, this bill would not have a measurable effect on the Department or county departments of human services.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications