

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

CTS 11/8/2005

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| LRB Number | 05-1165/1 | Introduction Number | AB-511 | Estimate Type | Original |
| Subject | | | | | |
| Sexual abuse of children placed in substitute care | | | | | |

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill creates two new categories of second degree sexual assault. One category is for sexual contact or sexual intercourse with a child by a person who is a foster parent. The other category is for sexual contact or sexual intercourse with a child by a person who works or volunteers in certain residential facilities for children. These offenses would be Class C felonies.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, which was recommended for adoption on September 8, 2005, retains the new categories of crimes as in AB 511 but places them in ch. 948, Crimes Against Children. In addition, ASA 1 expands the definition of incest under s. 948.06 to include having sexual contact or sexual intercourse with a child by the child's stepparent. This offense would also be a Class C felony.

Felony proceedings generally require additional court appearances and more court hearings than misdemeanors. Additional court proceedings require additional judge, court reporter, court staff and juror time. These costs are borne by the state and the county.

An accurate estimate of the increased costs is impossible with existing data. It is expected that existing court staff would be able to absorb the fiscal impact of this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications