



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOC 1/31/2014

LRB Number	13-3027/4	Introduction Number	AB-0674	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> Placement of a child in a shelter care facility under a voluntary agreement					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current legislation, a child taken into custody who has been ordered by the court to be held in temporary custody, or who is in need of transitional placement when immediate change in placement is necessitated may be held in a shelter care facility, defined as a nonsecure place of temporary care and custody licensed by Department of Children and Families (DCF).

Under proposed legislation, a child may be placed in a shelter care facility under voluntary agreement for no more than 20 days. A child's parent, guardian, Indian custodian, DCF, the Department of Corrections (DOC), human or social services, or a welfare agency may place the child in a DCF-approved shelter facility. A voluntary shelter facility placement may not exceed 20 days.

Under the proposed legislation, a person operating a shelter care facility may apply for the facility to be used for voluntary placements, and DCF must review the request and determine if the area served by the shelter and the services provided meet the needs of a voluntary placement shelter.

The fiscal impact of allowing DOC to temporarily place a child in a DCF-approved shelter care facility is unknown. Since DOC does not currently utilize shelter care facilities as temporary and transitional out-of-home care placements, it is not possible to know what the fiscal impact of shelter care facility placement may be. Any fiscal change would ultimately depend upon DOC's decision and ability to utilize shelter care facility temporary placements, rather than the utilization of a different field placement or at a secure detention facility. In addition, shelter care facility rates are not known so the cost comparison is not available. FY13's juvenile after care average daily population (ADP) is 108.67 and the cost per juvenile is approximately \$14,600 annually. Corrective Sanctions FY13 ADP is 75.84 and the cost per juvenile is approximately \$36,500 annually. The cost to house a juvenile in a secure detention facility is approximately \$54,800 annually.

Since the county could directly place a juvenile in a shelter care facility under the proposed legislation, there may be a potential impact to the counties. Since DOC does not have access to placement data for youth under county supervision, the Department cannot readily estimate the potential impact experienced by local governments.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications