

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 6/1/2015

LRB Number	15-2499/1	Introduction Number	SB-179	Estimate Type	Original
Description Requiring a determination of probable postfertilization age of an unborn child before abortion, prohibiting abortion of an unborn child considered capable of experiencing pain, informed consent, abortion reporting, granting rule-making authority, and providing a criminal penalty					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, physicians who intend to perform or induce an abortion must provide a woman seeking an abortion with informational materials created and distributed by the Department concerning agencies, programs, and services available to the individual. In addition, each facility in which an induced abortion was performed must file an annual report with the Department that contains certain information with respect to each patient obtaining an induced abortion.

Under SB 179, informational materials must be updated to include information on the availability of perinatal hospice. Also, annual reports from facilities in which induced abortions were performed must now include the following information:

1. Probable post-fertilization age of the unborn child.
2. Whether an ultrasound was used to assist in making the age determination.
3. If the probable post-fertilization age of the unborn child was not determined, or if the fetus is 20 weeks post-fertilization or more, the nature of the medical emergency.
4. If the fetus is 20 weeks post-fertilization or more, a statement on whether the method of abortion used was one that provided the best opportunity for the unborn child's survival, or, if such a method was not used, the basis of determination that termination of the pregnancy in that manner posed a greater risk either of death of the pregnant woman or of the substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function.

The Department would contract with the Women's Informed Consent hotline to compile and add online information regarding perinatal hospice, at a cost of \$5,000. In order to print physical versions of this material, the Department estimates printing costs of \$3,300.

In order to retrieve the additional information in annual reports, the Department would require additional staff time to update both the forms (80 hours at \$60/hour) and the reporting system configuration (120 hours at \$60/hour), key in the information (100 hours at \$20/hour), and train facilities during the initial year (320 hours at \$60/hour). The Department estimates training facilities and materials costs to be \$3000, legal review costs to be \$500, and distribution costs to be \$500.

In total, the additional informational and reporting requirements would lead to a one-time cost of \$45,500. However, it may be possible to absorb the increased cost within the agency's budget.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications