



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 8/2/2017

LRB Number	17-2353/2	Introduction Number	AB-0417	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> marriage between persons of the same sex and extending parentage rights to married couples of the same sex					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill recognizes same-sex marriage by making references in the statutes to spouses gender neutral. The bill also recognizes legal parentage for same-sex couples under certain circumstances. In addition to making statutory references to spouses gender neutral, the bill specifies ways in which married couples of the same sex may be the legal parents of a child and, with some exceptions, makes current references in the statutes to "mother" and "father," and related terms, gender neutral.

Updating the statutory provisions regarding the legal parents of a child would require a number of changes to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) electronic Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (eWISACWIS). DCF IT staff estimate that modification of any of the 150 eWISACWIS forms affected by this bill would require approximately 20 hours of developer time, which would cost approximately \$2,200 per form under the Department's eWISACWIS vendor contract. A more thorough analysis of the eWISACWIS forms would be needed to determine which forms are affected.

Additional system changes beyond simply updating data fields on eWISACWIS forms would also be needed. Examples of these changes include updating interfaces and pages where the updated fields appear. The scope of work required to make this change is indeterminate at this time, but would increase costs to DCF beyond normal maintenance of the eWISACWIS system or would require that other eWISACWIS work be reprioritized to accommodate the changes required under this bill.

Additionally, DCF's child support data system, or Kids Information Data System (KIDS), would require changes to be able to accommodate same-sex parent cases. Documents within the KIDS system would need to be updated as they are currently configured to deal with cases where there is a mother and a father. The scope of work required to make this change is indeterminate at this time, but would increase costs to DCF beyond normal maintenance of the KIDS system, assuming that other KIDS work would not be delayed or dissolved to accommodate the changes required under this bill. Child Support Online Services (CSOS) is a web facing application that citizens can use to check their child support profile and payments. CSOS utilizes KIDS data and may also need changes due to this proposed bill. Costs to update CSOS are indeterminate at this time.

Similar changes may also be required in DCF's CARES Worker Web. The cost of potential updates is indeterminate at this time.

Updates to DCF policies and procedures to reflect changes to affected systems could be absorbed by current DCF staffing levels.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications