

Fiscal Estimate - 2019 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 19-5341/1	Introduction Number AB-0778
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Description prohibiting the out-of-home placement of a child with a person with a record of a crime against a child

Fiscal Effect State: <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
Local: <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts

Fund Sources Affected <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives
DCF 2/13/2020

LRB Number	19-5341/1	Introduction Number	AB-0778	Estimate Type	Updated
Description prohibiting the out-of-home placement of a child with a person with a record of a crime against a child					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill prohibits the out-of-home placement of a child with a nonparent relative or other unlicensed person if that relative or person has been convicted, pled no contest, or had a charge that constitutes child abuse against him or her dropped as a result of a plea agreement. This bill also prohibits subsidized guardianships and licensing of child welfare agencies, foster homes, group homes, and shelter care facilities under the Children's Code if the license applicant, an employee, or a nonclient resident has pled no contest to a charge that constitutes child abuse or had a charge that constitutes child abuse against them dropped as the result of a plea agreement.

This bill would have costs for the Department of Children and Families related to significant changes to policy, procedures, training, forms, and the eWiSACWIS statewide child welfare information system.

Changes to policies, procedures, and forms could be absorbed using existing staff resources.

At least five child welfare trainings would need to be updated at a total cost of approximately \$100,000 to \$150,000. The bill affects trainings for caseworkers, foster care licensing, Kinship Care, and subsidized guardianship. Implementing these training updates would require postponing planned updates to other trainings.

Child welfare licensing staff would also be impacted, but the effects are indeterminate at this time.

Whenever a law change affects a central function of the child welfare system, there is potential for significant costs to the eWiSACWIS statewide child welfare information system. DCF's initial estimate was based on information from eWiSACWIS technical staff and assumed significant process changes to eWiSACWIS. After further discussions between technical and program staff it was determined that the changes in this bill could be accomplished at a smaller cost than originally estimated. For example, while this bill requires significant changes to the provider licensing process, most forms for that process are completed outside of eWiSACWIS so this change would not require significant system changes or development of a new licensing process in the system. Our revised estimate is that the cost to update eWiSACWIS would be approximately \$500,000. Implementing the necessary eWiSACWIS updates for this bill would require reprioritizing other system updates planned in the system release schedule.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications