

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 4/9/2021

LRB Number	21-0119/1	Introduction Number	SB-256	Estimate Type	Original
Description providing permanency plan and comments to out-of-home care providers in advance of a permanency plan review or hearing					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SB-256 allows an agency to provide a copy of child's permanency plan and any comments on the plan to a child's out-of-home care provider within the context of a permanency review and a permanency hearing. The bill also mandates that any information that is required to remain confidential under federal or state law must be redacted from the permanency plan before it is provided to the out-of-home care provider.

DCF estimates that multiple trainings would need to be edited and updated to accommodate the changes required under this bill and would incur a one-time cost of approximately \$30,000. In addition, the changes under this bill would necessitate updates to the eWiSACWIS child welfare information system to allow county child welfare workers to redact confidential permanency plan information. DCF estimates the one-time cost for this IT system change is approximately between \$250,000 and \$500,000.

Under this bill, the costs for county child welfare workers' time would increase due to the required redacted needed for each permanency plan to be shared with the child's out-of-home care provider. The extent of these increased costs is indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications