

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 459** SLS 26RS 1123

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 29, 2026	1:32 PM	Author: BARROW
Dept./Agy.: Dept. of Children and Family Services		Analyst: John McKay
Subject: Establishes Minimum Standards For Certain Employees		

CHILDREN/FAMILY SERVICES DEPT OR NO IMPACT See Note Page 1 of 1
Provides relative to the Department of Children and Family Services. (8/1/26)

Proposed legislation requires any employee responsible for conducting investigations into allegations of child abuse or neglect shall, at a minimum, possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university. Proposed law removes the requirement to conduct research and compile information deemed necessary to provide services to parish governments, including organizing and supervising parish offices for the effective administration of child welfare functions

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
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Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION


There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure. The proposed legislation establishes a mandatory bachelor's degree requirement for all employees conducting child abuse and neglect investigations. Currently, minimum qualifications include either three years of experience in child welfare, six years of full-time work experience in any field, or a bachelor's degree. The proposed bill would eliminate the experience-based pathways and make a bachelor's degree the sole minimum qualification.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer