

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 469** HLS 24RS 234
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.: **REVISED**

Date: March 20, 2024 8:09 PM	Author: MOORE
Dept./Agy.: Department of Children and Family Services	Analyst: Tamiko Stroud
Subject: Establishes 233 sexual abuse helpline	

HEALTH OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Establishes 233 as a statewide sexual abuse helpline

Proposed law adds boosting awareness and proper utilization of the sexual abuse helpline. Proposed law requires the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to develop and designate 233 as the 3-digit telephone code exclusively for reporting sexual abuse in the state. Proposed law further requires DCFS to be responsible for the efficacy and implementation of the sexual abuse helpline, which includes a certain list of requirements.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	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

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The proposed law will result in a significant, but indeterminable, increase in expenditures for the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) as a result of designating 233 as the sexual abuse helpline, including hiring staff and additional costs associated with marketing and advertising.

This measure requires DCFS to develop and designate 233 as the three-digit telephone code exclusively for reporting sexual abuse in this state. This measure requires DCFS to ensure the efficacy and implementation of the sexual abuse helpline, which includes but is not limited to the following: 1) maintaining a log of reported sexual abuse claims made by persons who call the sexual abuse helpline, 2) employing counseling professionals who can respond to calls and provide contact information and referrals for sexual abuse treatment, 3) marketing and advertising of the sexual abuse helpline, 4) reporting claims of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement personnel.

As an illustrative example, DCFS utilizes a statewide contract with the Young Williams Call Center to allow state employees to handle calls related to SNAP interviews for cash assistance benefits, statewide reports of child abuse, and mandatory reports of child abuse. Based on FY 23 actual expenditures, DCFS contracted these services at a cost of \$14,526,414. To implement the proposed law, DCFS reports they may be able to amend the existing contract with Young Williams. To the extent that the department can modify the existing contract to provide sexual abuse helpline services, the department reports a one-time cost of \$810 per staff person and \$1,800 per staff person annually added to the contract. However, the total number of staff needed to cover the helpline is indeterminable as the number of calls to the helpline is not known. The proposed law leaves the scale of operation and staffing levels of the helpline to the discretion of DCFS, which will likely be cost driven by market rates.

DCFS was unable to determine the cost of hiring staff but was able to provide estimated costs for billboards, online/digital ads, concept and design, brochures, folded business cards, posters, and graphic design for print material, based on existing contracts for marketing services.

Projected Expenditures	Cost
Billboards and Online/Digital Ads	\$367,750 (11 billboards for 6 months in 5 regions, \$73,550 per region)
Concept/Design for Billboards and Ads	\$57,050 (326 hours x \$175 per hour)
Brochures	\$3,000 (25,000 copies x \$0.12 per copy)
Folded Business Cards	\$10,000 (50,000 copies x \$0.20 per copy)
Poster Printing	\$4,000 (5,000 copies x \$0.80 per copy)
Graphic Design for Print Material	\$5,035 (53 hours x \$95.00 per hour)
Total	\$446,835

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate
 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