

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 261** HLS 15RS 464

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 27, 2015 5:07 PM	Author: HODGES
Dept./Agy.: Children & Family Services	Analyst: Patrice Thomas
Subject: Quality Parenting for Children in Foster Care Act	

CHILDREN/FOSTER CARE OR +\$3,080 GF EX See Note
Enacts the Quality Parenting for Children in Foster Care Act

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Proposed law is known as the "Quality Parenting for Children in Foster Care Act" that recognizes the importance of normalizing the lives of children in foster care by encouraging and supporting their participation in age and developmentally appropriate extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, social, and sporting activities. Proposed law adds the training topic entitled "reasonable and prudent parent standard", established in this proposed law, to the foster care training program approved by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Proposed law defines "reasonable and prudent parent standard", requires foster caregivers to use the reasonable and prudent parent standard as well as consider specific criteria outlined in the proposed law. Proposed law does not apply to the parental rights of a natural parent of a child. If foster caregiver acted in accordance with reasonable and prudent parent standard, proposed law stipulates the caregiver is not liable for harm caused to a child who participates in an activity. Nothing in proposed law removes or limits any existing liability protection afforded by existing law. Proposed law requires DCFS to promulgate rules for implementation of proposed law.

EXPENDITURES	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$3,080	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,080
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$9,240	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,240
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$12,320	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,320

REVENUES	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	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 legislation requires the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to provide training to foster caregivers regarding the participation of foster children in certain activities and is projected to cost \$12,320 (\$3,080 SGF and \$9,240 Federal funds) for FY 16. This proposed legislation requires the DCFS to develop the "reasonable and prudent parent standard" curricula as well as train all current and new foster caregivers to insure their decision making is in accordance with the reasonable and prudent parent standard. The development of the reasonable and prudent parent standard curricula is projected to be a one-time cost of \$12,320. The department will contract with a training vendor to develop the training at a cost of \$70 per hour for 176 hours. Once the curricula is developed, the department will provide computer based training at no additional cost to 1,014 child welfare staff and approximately 2,500 foster caregivers.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

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|---|----------------------------|-------|--|
| Senate | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | House | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 Rev. Red. to State {H & S} |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H} | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} |

Evan Brasseaux

Evan Brasseaux
Staff Director