

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 10/16/2009

LRB Number	09-3578/1	Introduction Number	AB-0462	Estimate Type	Original
Description Prohibiting a person who has been convicted or adjudicated delinquent for committing certain serious crimes or who is the subject of a pending criminal charge or delinquency petition for committing a serious crime from being licensed, certified, or contracted with to provide child care, from being employed or contracted as a caregiver of a child care provider, or from being permitted to reside at a premises where child care is provided and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires more frequent criminal history searches in Department of Justice (DOJ) databases and caregiver background check searches through the Department of Health Services (DHS).

Under this bill, the Department of Children and Families (DCF), county departments, a contracting agency or school boards must perform searches of childcare providers every 3 months and nonclient residents and caregivers under 18 every year, rather than every four years. In addition, childcare providers must conduct searches for the staff every year rather than every four years.

The cost of these background checks is borne by the agency or the childcare provider requesting the check. The costs of the background checks vary as to the type of provider and whether the caregiver background check is requested on the internet or by mail or fax. If a background check is requested by a non-profit agency or a government agency via internet, the cost for the combined DOJ criminal history check and the DHS caregiver background check is \$10. Any other child care provider would pay \$16.00. If the request is submitted by fax or mail, the cost is \$15 for non-profit or government agencies. Any other day care provider would pay \$21 for each check. In each circumstance, DHS receives \$2.75 of the fee, which is deposited in s. 20.435(6)(jm) and used to support the cost of the automated system that processes search requests. The fee is waived for state agencies.

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) states there are currently 8,500 licensed and certified providers in the state. Of these providers, 2,600 are county providers. Under this bill, provider background searches will increase from once every 4 years to 4 searches per year. In addition, this bill would require providers to conduct a criminal history check on all nonclient residents or caregivers each year. Currently, approximately 1,950 background checks are conducted annually for county providers. The number of searches would be expected to increase by 13,650 per year for the providers.

In addition to increasing the number of background searches for providers, background searches on employees will increase from once every four years to once each year. DCF estimates the number of searches will increase from 5,313 per year to 21,250 per year, a net increase of 15,937 searches.

If this bill is passed, DHS would expect to process an additional 29,587 background searches per year for which DHS will receive fee revenues with an estimated increase in revenue of \$81,400 annually.

Caregiver background checks are processed by DHS through an automated system. Increased costs to DHS would be minimal, mainly for postage and other mailing fees when responding to those persons who request the criminal history check by mail. The \$81,400 in increased revenue will be used to cover those costs and for the ongoing operation of the background check system.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2009 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 09-3578/1		Introduction Number AB-0462	
Description Prohibiting a person who has been convicted or adjudicated delinquent for committing certain serious crimes or who is the subject of a pending criminal charge or delinquency petition for committing a serious crime from being licensed, certified, or contracted with to provide child care, from being employed or contracted as a caregiver of a child care provider, or from being permitted to reside at a premises where child care is provided and making an appropriation			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
	State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$	\$
	(FTE Position Changes)		
	State Operations - Other Costs		
	Local Assistance		
	Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
	TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
	GPR		
	FED		
	PRO/PRS		
	SEG/SEG-S		
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)			
		Increased Rev	Decreased Rev
	GPR Taxes	\$	\$
	GPR Earned		
	FED		
	PRO/PRS	81,400	
	SEG/SEG-S		
	TOTAL State Revenues	\$81,400	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		State	Local
	NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$	\$
	NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$81,400	\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
DHS/ Elaine Velez (608) 266-9363		Andy Forsaith (608) 266-7684	10/16/2009