

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 129** SLS 18RS 267
 Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 24, 2018	2:17 PM	Author: GATTI
Dept./Agy.: DCFS		Analyst: Tanesha Morgan
Subject: Foster care		

FAMILY LAW EN +\$961,264 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Provides relative to foster care children in high school.

Proposed law provides that the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) shall allow a child who is in foster care and who is also a full-time high school student to remain in foster care until he attains the age of twenty-one or graduates from high school or equivalent, whichever occurs first. Proposed law provides that the foster child and foster parent must consent to participate in continued care after the foster child reaches the age of majority.

EXPENDITURES	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$961,264	\$1,152,200	\$1,244,376	\$1,244,376	\$1,244,376	\$5,846,592
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$2,883,792	\$3,456,600	\$3,733,128	\$3,733,128	\$3,733,128	\$17,539,776
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$3,845,056	\$4,608,800	\$4,977,504	\$4,977,504	\$4,977,504	\$23,386,368

REVENUES	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

This measure is anticipated to increase expenses to DCFS by a maximum of \$3,845,640 in FY 19, which will be annualized in future fiscal years. The measure provides that a foster child that is a full-time high school student can remain in foster care until he reaches the age of 21 or graduates from high school or equivalent, creating a new population of foster children.

On average, 183 youths age out of foster care each year. Approximately 80% of those would remain in foster care given the provisions of this measure. Based on the department's previous experience with a similar program that ended in 2013 (Young Adult Program), 80% individuals will finish high school by age nineteen, 10% will finish high school by age twenty, and the remaining 10% will finish high school or exit foster care by age twenty one. The average cost to provide services to a foster child is \$2,195 per month, for a total of \$26,336 per year. Based on this, the cost to serve this new population is as follows:

Year	Increase # served	x	Annual cost per child	=	Total Projected Cost*
FY 19	146	x	\$26,336	=	\$3,845,640
FY 20	175	x	\$26,336	=	\$4,608,800
FY 21	189	x	\$26,336	=	\$4,977,504
FY 22	189	x	\$26,336	=	\$4,977,504
FY 23	189	x	\$26,336	=	\$4,977,504

*This projection assumes 12 full months of foster care. However, to the extent that the child exits foster care sooner due to completion of high school or because he has reached the age of 21 during the fiscal year, then the total cost will be reduced \$2,195 per child, per month.

On average, one Child Welfare Specialist manages 10 foster children. Therefore, DCFS will need to hire approximately 20 Child Welfare Specialists (\$67,200 salaries and benefits) and 4 Child Welfare Supervisors (\$67,200 salaries and benefits) to manage these additional cases. The cost of these additional employees have been captured in the table above.

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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}

Evan Brasseaux
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Staff Director

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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

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Expenditure explanation continued from Page 1

Cost associated with foster care is funded with State General Fund and Federal Funds (Title IV-E and Social Services Block Grant). A blended rate of 25% State Match and 75% Federal is used in this fiscal note analysis. This blended rate is based on 60% of the cost qualifying for Title IV-E funding (25% SGF and 75% federal) and 30% of the cost qualifying for Social Services Block Grant funding (100% federal). The remaining 10% will require 100% SGF.

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}

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