

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **SB 267** SLS 24RS 471

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

**REVISED**

<b>Date:</b> March 25, 2024 7:13 PM	<b>Author:</b> BARROW
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Courts	<b>Analyst:</b> Daniel Druilhet
<b>Subject:</b> Traumatic Child Abuser Program	

FAMILY LAW

OR INCREASE GF EX See Note

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Provides for the traumatic child abuser program. (8/1/24)

Proposed law creates the traumatic child abuser program; provides that upon motion of any party, or its own motion, the court may, for good cause shown or upon agreement of the parties require the parties in a custody or visitation proceeding to attend and complete a court-approved traumatic child abusers program and that the court may render program costs against any party as it deems equitable; provides that an instructor shall not be called as a witness in a custody or visitation proceeding without prior court approval; provides that if a court requires participation in the program, it shall outline in an order the goals to accomplish provisions of the program; provides goals for the program; mandates that nonviolent acts or communications made during the program and irrelevant to the subject matter of divorce, custody, or visitation, are confidential, not subject to disclosure and may not be used as evidence in favor of or against a participant in the pending proceeding; provides that in a proceeding in which joint custody has been decreed, the court shall render a joint custody implementation order, which shall indicate an interim domiciliary parent, other than the parent required to participate in the program; mandates that all major decisions made by the domiciliary parent concerning the child be subject to court review upon motion of the other parent; requires suspension of child support for the participating parent while in the program and redetermination at completion.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law will likely result in an increase in expenditures (34% SGF and 66% Federal) in the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to the extent that additional contradictory hearings on child support redetermination are conducted that require the agency to assume the responsibility for filing fees associated with child support modification requests. Proposed law has the effect of increasing the number of contradictory hearings on child support redetermination, and DCFS would be required to submit filing fees of \$240 for each related motion. The exact fiscal impact to DCFS is indeterminable, as it is not known the number of filings for motions for child support redetermination that will occur, or the amount of fees that will be submitted related to these motions, with enactment of the proposed law.

Note: DCFS indicated that it would need to secure one additional T.O. position for an expected increased workload associated with contradictory hearings on child support redetermination. DCFS estimates that it will need one attorney at an annual cost of approximately \$117,832 for salaries and benefits. The LFO cannot corroborate that the proposed law's requirements will create a workload level sufficient to require one additional attorney. To the extent that existing employees are used, personnel costs will be mitigated.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law will likely result in an increase in Local Funds revenues in the district courts and family courts. The district courts would receive filing fees of \$240 for each motion related to a contradictory hearing on child support redetermination. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation on local revenue is indeterminable, as the number of motions filed (and the amount in corresponding filing fees collected) on motions for child support redetermination is unknown. The potential revenue will accrue to the local governing authority.

Senate

Dual Referral Rules

House

13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}

6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

**Patrice Thomas**  
**Deputy Fiscal Officer**