

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7620

BILL NUMBER: HB 1445

DATE PREPARED: Mar 19, 1999

BILL AMENDED: Mar 18, 1999

SUBJECT: Child custody for care givers.

FISCAL ANALYST: Ron Sobecki

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FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: No Fiscal Impact

Summary of Legislation: This bill expands the factors that a court must consider in determining child custody whenever the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that the child has been cared for by a de facto custodian. The bill defines a de facto custodian as a person who has been the primary care giver for, and financial support of, the child for a certain period. It provides that whenever a court finds sufficient evidence that a person has been a de facto custodian of a child, the court shall: (1) make the de facto custodian a party to the proceeding; and (2) award custody of the child to the de facto custodian if the court determines that it is in the best interests of the child. It makes conforming changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 1999.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: