

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

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 8196

BILL NUMBER: HB 2087

DATE PREPARED: Feb 9, 1999

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Child protection system.

FISCAL ANALYST: Ron Sobecki

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
X FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires an individual reporting that a child may be a victim of child abuse or neglect to include in the report the individual's name, address, and telephone number. The bill requires an individual receiving the report to verify the reporter's telephone number. It limits the types of information that may be included in the report. The bill requires that most physical examinations in cases of alleged child abuse or neglect must be conducted by a licensed physician in a licensed health care facility. It specifies who may take photographs in cases of alleged child abuse or neglect, how the photographs must be stored, and to whom the photographs must be made available. The bill requires that photographs taken as a result of an unsubstantiated report of alleged child abuse or neglect must be destroyed immediately after the report is determined to be unsubstantiated.

Effective Date: July 1, 1999.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) There will be a fiscal impact to the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) due to the requirement that most physical examinations in cases of alleged child abuse or neglect must be conducted by a licensed physician in a licensed health care facility. It is estimated that of the 17,679 physical abuse referrals in FY 98, approximately 14% or 2,475 of the cases involve children who are Medicaid eligible. The projected cost of the Medicaid eligible children is dependant on the whether the examination is conducted by a physician in the physician's office or at a hospital emergency room. If all of the 2,475 children were examined in a physician's office the cost of the examinations is estimated to be \$79,200 (2,475 children x \$32 physician cost) The federal government would pay 61% of the cost or \$48,312, the state would pay 23% of the cost or \$18,216, and county government would pay 16% or \$12,672.

If all of the 2,475 children were examined in the hospital emergency room the cost would be \$264,825 (2,475 children x \$72 physician cost x \$35 emergency room cost). The federal government would pay 61% or \$161,543, the state would pay 23% or \$60,910, and the county would pay 16% or \$42,372.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: See State Expenditures.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Family and Social Services Administration.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties.

Information Sources: Cathy Graham, FSSA, 232-4423, Karen Kinder, FSSA, 232-7088.