

FISCAL NOTE

May 11, 2022

Bill No:	HB 2426	Printer's No:	2836	Sponsor:	Rep. Hickernell (R)
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COST / (SAVINGS)

Fund (s)	2021-22	2022-23
General Fund	See Below	See Below

SUMMARY: Bill codifies the Resource Family Care and the Resource Family and Adoption Process Acts into Title 76 of the Consolidated Statutes. The acts gave families a voice in the process. This bill seeks to make these acts law to ensure compliance.

ANALYSIS: This bill moves the two acts into statute. The Department of Human Services would be required to promulgate regulations to ensure consistency with all public and private child welfare agencies and provide resource parents with awareness of their rights.

FISCAL IMPACT: DHS anticipates the need for additional staff, supports and training to support the promulgation and enforcement of the new regulations. Increased costs are associated with the requirements for notification of written documents within a specified time. There are also additional costs to provide support services to both the child and the resource family. The cost to County Child Welfare would be \$17.831 million in this fiscal year and \$18.544 million in the next fiscal year. There would also be costs to Local County Government due to counties needing to add staff at a cost of \$4.458 million in this fiscal year and \$ 4.686 million in the next fiscal year.

The fiscal impact takes the following into consideration:

1. Assumes 135 additional caseworkers needed based on county class size. The number of additional caseworkers needed is multiplied by the average salary, wage, and benefits based on FY 22-23 NBB Personnel and Solicitor Data.
2. Assumes 27 additional supervisors based on one supervisor for every 5 caseworkers.
3. Assumes a 4% increase in the succeeding FY.
4. Assumes cost of providing support services and training to both child and resource family to be absorbed thru the counties existing budget.