

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1194-02
Bill No.: Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed HCS for SB 205
Subject: Children and Minors; Social Services Department; Family Services Division;
 Education, Higher
Type: Original
Date: May 28, 2013

Bill Summary: This proposal changes the laws regarding foster children.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
General Revenue	(Unknown, less than \$100,000)	(Unknown, less than \$100,000)	(Unknown, less than \$100,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	(Unknown, less than \$100,000)	(Unknown, less than \$100,000)	(Unknown, less than \$100,000)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

- Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).
- Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§ 211.036 - Youth Returning to Foster Care:

Officials from the **Department of Social Services (DSS) - Children's Division (CD)** state in section 211.036, current statute provides that if a child is under the age of 18 and released from the custody of the CD and it appears that it would be in the best interest of the child, the Juvenile Officer, the CD or the child may petition the court to return custody of the child to the CD. This proposal changes "under age 18" to "under the age of 21".

It is unknown how many children from age 18 up to age 21 would reenter foster care based solely on what is in the best interest of the child and as a result of a petition filed by the Juvenile Officer, the Children's Division or the child. In Fiscal Year 2012, the cost for foster care per child was \$19,380. If five children came into care in a year, the cost would be \$96,900.

The CD does not anticipate a large number of children re-entering foster care between the ages of 18 up to 21 as a result of this legislation; therefore, the fiscal impact is unknown, but less than \$100,000 annually.

§ 453.350 - Foster Child College Visits:

Officials from the DSS also provide that beginning July 1, 2014, all children older than 15 years of age who are in the foster care system with the CD or in the Division of Youth Services (DYS) program receive a visit to a state university, a community or technical college, or an armed services recruiter in the child's area before being adopted or terminated by foster care or completing the division's custody or training. The visit must include entry application process, financial support application and availability, career options with academic or technical training, a campus tour, and other information and experience desired by the child. The visit shall not be required if waived by the youth's family support or treatment team.

Private agencies providing foster care case management services shall receive reimbursement from DSS for costs associated with these college visits if they can document those costs and request reimbursement.

Both CD and DYS state that any transportation expenses related to college visits above and beyond what the two divisions are currently doing now could be absorbed. Furthermore, the CD's case management agencies are already providing these types of visits. If this is a new cost, which is documented, the CD plans to pay for these services with existing appropriations. Therefore, the provisions relating to college visits have no fiscal impact on the CD or the DYS.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials from **Metropolitan Community College** state this proposal would likely have a very minor positive fiscal impact on their organization.

Officials from the **Department of Higher Education (DHE)** stated the proposal would have no direct, foreseeable fiscal impact on the DHE.

Officials from **Department of Public Safety - Missouri National Guard, Linn State Technical College, Missouri State University** and the **Northwest Missouri State University** each assume the proposal would not fiscally impact their respective agencies.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2014 (10 Mo.)	FY 2015	FY 2016
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GENERAL REVENUE FUND

Cost - DSS-CD

Children age 18 to 21 re-entering foster care (§211.036)	<u>(Unknown, less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Unknown, less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Unknown, less than \$100,000)</u>
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ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND	<u>(Unknown, less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Unknown, less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Unknown, less than \$100,000)</u>
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<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2014 (10 Mo.)	FY 2015	FY 2016
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<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

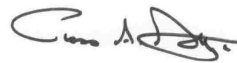
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Under current law, if a youth under the age of 18 is released from the custody of the Children's Division within the Department of Social Services, the juvenile officer, the Children's Division or the youth may petition the court to return to the custody of the Children's Division if it appears it would be in the youth's best interest. This proposal raises the age limit from 18 to 21.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Higher Education
Department of Social Services -
 Children's Division
 Division of Youth Services
Department of Public Safety -
 Missouri National Guard
Metropolitan Community College
Missouri State University
Northwest Missouri State University



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