

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4661-01
Bill No.: HB 1555
Subject: Children and Minors; Family Law; Department of Social Services
Type: Original
Date: April 10, 2006

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of State Courts Administrator** assume the proposed legislation would have no fiscal impact on the courts.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services – Children’s Division** assume the proposed legislation would have no fiscal impact on their agency, assuming the juvenile court would not order the division to purchase additional technologies.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2007 (10 Mo.)	FY 2008	FY 2009
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2007 (10 Mo.)	FY 2008	FY 2009
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation requires the parties in a dissolution of marriage proceeding to submit in their proposed parenting plan a specific written schedule for virtual visitation. Each parent, unless otherwise denied by court order, must permit and encourage the other parent to have reasonable and uncensored communications via virtual visitation between a non-custodial parent and a child and between a child and the custodial parent when the child is staying with the non-custodial parent. Virtual visitation is designed to supplement and not replace in-person visitation. "Virtual visitation" is defined as parenting time facilitated by tools such as telephone, e-mail, instant messaging, video conferencing, and any other wired or wireless technologies over the Internet or other communication media.

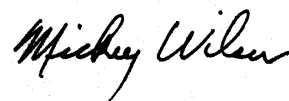
If the parties cannot agree on whether virtual visitation equipment is reasonably available, the court will make the decision based on the best interest of the child, each parent's ability to handle any additional expenses of virtual visitation, and any other factors the court considers relevant.

The proposal also allows a court to grant virtual visitation rights to the grandparents of the child.

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

Office of State Courts Administrator
Department of Social Services



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