

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 5476-01  
Bill No.: HB 1691  
Subject: Children and Minors; Education, Elementary and Secondary  
Type: Original  
Date: March 20, 2014

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Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to the reporting of sexual abuse in schools and removes school district authority to investigate allegations made against employees in the spanking context.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

☐ 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).

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education** assume no direct fiscal impact to their agency and defer to local school districts regarding fiscal impact of this proposed legislation.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services - Children's Division** assume this bill removes language in §160.261, starting at subsection 10 to subsection 22. These are provisions in current statute that prohibit the Children's Division from having jurisdiction to investigate reports of alleged child abuse arising out of or related to the use of reasonable force to protect persons or property when administered by personnel of a school district or any spanking administered in a reasonable manner by any certificated school personnel in the presence of a witness who is an employee of the school district as long as no allegation of sexual misconduct arises from the spanking or use of force.

From calendar years 2008 to 2012, the Children's Division averaged 71 reports a year in which the finding was entered as a result of an investigation by a school board. In 2013, the Children's Division received 78 reports in which the finding was entered as a result of an investigation by a school board. This bill would require the Children's Division to conduct at least 71 additional investigations per year. Investigators can do 12 hotlines a month and 144 per year. Although there would be a slight increase in investigations as a result of this legislation, the fiscal impact could be absorbed by current staff.

The Children's Division does not anticipate a fiscal or programmatic impact as a result of this bill.

Officials from the **Special School District of St. Louis County (SSD)** assume this proposed bill would likely have a slight positive impact on SSD as it appears to shift more responsibility for child abuse investigations back to the Children's Division of the Department of Social Services.

Officials from the **Fulton School District** assume no significant fiscal impact to their district.

Officials from the **Johnson County R-VII** assume a range of impact could be no impact to \$100,000 depending on the specific situation.

**Oversight** assumes impact would not be direct and for fiscal note purposes only, will assign no fiscal impact to local school districts.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
	<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.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation appears to have no direct fiscal impact.

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 Elementary and Secondary Education

Department of Social Services

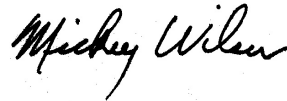
Children's Division

School Districts

Special School District of St. Louis County

Johnson County R-VII

Fulton



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Director

March 20, 2014

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March 20, 2014