



Colorado *Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note*
NO FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 09-0142

Date: February 2, 2009

Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Keller
Rep. Schafer S.

Bill Status: Senate Health and Human Services
Fiscal Analyst: Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE "CHILD MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT ACT".

Summary of Legislation

The bill continues the Child Mental Health Treatment Act through July 1, 2019. It also requires each behavioral health organization to report program information to the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing annually, which is then provided to the Department of Human Services. The bill is effective upon signature of the Governor or becoming law without his signature.

Background

The Child Mental Health Treatment Act allows families to access residential treatment services for a child without requiring a dependency and neglect action. To be eligible, a child must have a mental illness and require the level of care provided in a residential child care facility. About 50 children received residential mental health treatment under the act in FY 2007-08.

Currently, funding for services under the act are included in the base appropriations to the Department of Human Services. Total funding for these services is \$1.2 million and 1.0 FTE in FY 2008-09, which includes the following:

- \$729,534 from the General Fund;
- \$280,387 from the Tobacco Litigation Settlement Cash Fund; and
- \$119,225 from reappropriated Medicaid funds.

Assessment

The bill is assessed at no fiscal impact. The extension of the repeal date of the Child Mental Health Treatment Act does not impact state expenditures, as the budget request for the Department of Human Services included continuation funding for FY 2009-10. Costs for data collection and reporting by the Department of Human Services, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, the five behavioral health organizations, and other providers are not expected to be significant, and can be absorbed within existing appropriations.

Departments Contacted

Health Care Policy and Financing

Human Services