

**STATE and LOCAL
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 14-0907	Date: April 8, 2014
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Kerr; Newell Rep. Young	Bill Status: Senate Judiciary
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SHORT TITLE: DRUG-ENDANGERED CHILD CHILDREN'S CODE

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2014-2015	FY 2015-2016
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Workload increase.	
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		

* This summary shows changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year.

Summary of Legislation

This bill expands upon the existing definition for the term "drug-endangered child," for cases of child abuse or neglect in the children's code, to mean any child in a situation where:

- in the presence of a child, or on the premises where a child is found or resides, a controlled substance is or is attempted to be manufactured, distributed, cultivated, produced, possessed or used, and when such activity threatens the health or welfare of the child;
- a child's health or welfare is threatened by unrestricted access to either a controlled substance or any legal substance capable of causing a mental or physical impairment;
- a child's health or welfare is threatened by the impairment of the person responsible for the care of the child, if the impairment is due to the use of either a controlled substance or any legal substance capable of causing a mental or physical impairment; or
- a child tests positive at birth for either a schedule I or schedule II controlled substance, unless the child tests positive for a schedule II controlled substance as a result of the mother's lawful intake of the prescribed substance.

State Expenditures

This bill expands upon the existing definition of a drug-endangered child. As such, it could increase the number of dependency and neglect cases that are filed with the courts. The fiscal note assumes that the increase in workload for the Judicial Department can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Local Government Impact

The expanded definition of a drug-endangered child may increase workload and costs for counties from additional child welfare reports, investigations and, potentially, out-of-home placements. These costs have not been estimated.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Judicial

District Attorneys
Municipalities

Human Services