



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

SB16-201

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 16-1184
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Grantham
 Rep. Young

Date: April 27, 2016
Bill Status: Senate Appropriations
Fiscal Analyst: Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

BILL TOPIC: RESTRUCTURE CHILD WELFARE FUNDING

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2015-2016 (Current year)	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018
State Revenue			
State Expenditures	Minimal workload increase.		
Appropriation Required: None.			
Future Year Impacts: Ongoing minimal workload increase.			

Summary of Legislation

This bill, **recommended by the Joint Budget Committee**, requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to work with county departments of human services, residential treatment providers, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF), and the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) to review the rate-setting process for residential treatment programs serving youth in the child welfare system. The bill also requires the Child Welfare Allocations Committee (CWAC) in the DHS to meet by August 1, 2016, to consider whether changes to the current method for allocating county child welfare funding are needed and to examine various aspects of child welfare operations at the county level.

The bill specifies various details that must be considered during these reviews. For the rate-setting review group, the DHS must report to the Joint Budget Committee by January 1, 2017, and each January thereafter. For child welfare funding, the CWAC must report to the JBC by December 15, 2016. The CWAC is also required to provide an annual report to various legislative committees by January 1 each year, beginning in 2018, that outlines its methods for evaluating and reporting on the use, sufficiency, and effectiveness of county child welfare funding.

State Expenditures

Beginning in FY 2015-16, the bill increases workload in the DHS, HCPF, and JBC staff to participate in the child welfare rate and funding reviews specified in the bill. The fiscal note assumes that these reviews are similar in nature to those that regularly occur during the annual budget process and as part of regular agency operations. Therefore, any increase in workload is assumed to be minimal and no change in appropriations is required. In the event the reviews lead to recommendations to change rates or funding for child welfare services, it is assumed any required adjustments will be requested through the annual budget process.

Local Government Impact

The bill increases workload for various county officials to participate in the reviews required by the bill. The impact will vary by county based on their officials' ability to participate in the reviews.

Effective Date

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

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Human Services
Joint Budget Committee

Health Care Policy and Financing
Information Technology
Law