

February 16, 2015

The Honorable Jeff King, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Statehouse, Room 341-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator King:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 159 by Senate Committee on Judiciary

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 159 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 159 would require law enforcement to take a child under 18 years of age into custody when an officer reasonably believes that there is a drug crime occurring in the child's residence that threatens the safety of the child.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2015 SGF	FY 2015 All Funds	FY 2016 SGF	FY 2016 All Funds
Revenue	--	--	--	--
Expenditure	--	--	\$320,252	\$429,548
FTE Pos.	--	--	--	--

The Department for Children and Families (DCF) states that SB 159 would increase the number of children placed in protective custody and custody of the Secretary of DCF. In FY 2014 there 472 children removed from their residence due to drug abuse. Assuming a ten percent increase in these removals, 47 additional children would be removed from the home. Of those children, it is estimated that 23 would be placed in foster care for an average stay of 17 months. The average cost of foster care is \$1,473 per month. These additional out-of-home placements would increase DCF expenditures by \$406,548, including \$297,252 from the State General Fund, in FY 2016.

It is further assumed that 200 additional children would be placed in an emergency shelter for one night. The daily cost for emergency shelters is \$115. This would increase DCF expenditures by \$23,000 all from the State General Fund.

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The Office of Judicial Administration state that SB 159 could result in additional child in need of care case filings which would increase time spent by court staff in processing, researching and hearing cases. However, it is not possible to predict the number of additional court cases that would arise or how complex and time-consuming they would be. Therefore, a precise fiscal effect cannot be determined. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 159 is not reflected in *The FY 2016 Governor's Budget Report*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Sullivan", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Shawn Sullivan,
Director of the Budget

cc: Mary Rinehart, Judiciary
Jackie Aubert, Children & Families
Melissa Wangemann, Association of Counties
Larry Baer, League of Municipalities