

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: SB 164

SHORT TITLE: Foster Parent Records/AB

SPONSOR(S): Committee Substitute - Judiciary I/Constitution

FISCAL IMPACT: Expenditures: Increase (X) Decrease ()
Revenues: Increase () Decrease ()
No Impact ()
No Estimate Available ()

FUND AFFECTED: General Fund (X) Highway Fund () Local Govt. ()
Other Funds ()

BILL SUMMARY: Requires the Department of Human Resources (DHR) to check the criminal history of any person providing foster care or applying to provide foster care. The Department of Justice shall provide such a criminal history to DHR, and shall charge DHR a reasonable fee for the services rendered. DHR shall bear the cost of the fee out of the Division of Social Services budget, rather than pass it along to those whose criminal histories are checked. Amounts are appropriated to DHR to cover the cost of implementing the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The requirement to check criminal histories becomes effective on January 1, 1996. The appropriations to DHR become effective on July 1, 1995.

FISCAL IMPACT

Table with 5 columns: 95-96, 96-97, 97-98, 98-99, 99-00. Row 1: EXPENDITURES: GENERAL FUND. Values: \$271,153, 330,008, \$389,409, \$459,503, \$542,214

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY: Completing a Federal, State, and local criminal history check costs \$48. For the first year of the program, it is expected that 8,187 checks will be required at a cost of \$392,976. Federal Title IV-E foster care funds in the amount of \$121,823 are expected to be available to offset part of this cost, leaving an appropriation requirement of \$271,153. For the second year of the program, it is expected that 9,964 checks will be required, at a cost of \$478,272. After accounting for Federal funding offsets, the appropriation requirement would be \$330,008. Costs for the third through fifth years are based on continued growth in the number of foster care providers at the historical rate of 18 percent.

SOURCES: Costs for fiscal years 1995-96 and 1996-97 are based on figures provided by DHR. Costs for the remaining years are projections calculated by the Fiscal Research Division.

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION

733-4910

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DATE: March 8, 1995



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