

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 332 - SB 856

March 23, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to investigate all reports of child abuse, child sexual abuse, and harm to a child unless the child or family cannot be identified and located by the information provided in the report, the child or the child's family are not in the state, the victim is at least 18 years old, or the contact with DCS was for informational purposes only. DCS is required to reassess all families that decline public and private services or does not provide alternative services of its own within 90 days to determine whether the child is at risk for maltreatment.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$5,552,400

Increase Federal Expenditures - \$3,757,800

Assumptions:

- According to DCS, 36,317 referrals to child protective services were screened out by DCS staff and were not investigated. DCS estimates that 16,857 of those referrals would be investigated under the provisions of the proposed legislation. Additionally, 1,035 assessment cases declined services and would require reassessment within 90 days under the provisions of the proposed legislation.
- DCS estimates the total number of cases that will have to be investigated or reassessed to be 17,892.
- The Department estimates 136 additional case managers and 27 additional team leaders to handle the increase investigations and assessments that will be required.
- The 136 additional case managers will result in an increase in expenditures of \$7,765,056 which includes salaries (\$4,678,400), benefits (\$1,590,656), and communications, networking, travel and supplies (\$1,496,000).

HB 332 - SB 856

- The 27 additional team leaders will result in an increase in expenditures of \$1,545,210 which includes salaries (\$931,500), benefits (\$316,710), and communications, networking, travel and supplies (\$297,000).
- Of the total increase of \$9,310,266 (\$7,765,056 + \$1,545,210), seven percent (\$651,719) will be Title IV-E Federal funds; 45 percent (\$4,189,620) will be through TennCare; and \$4,468,927 in state funds.
- Of the \$4,189,620 in TennCare funds, \$1,083,520 is state funds at a 25.862 percent match rate and \$3,106,100 is federal funds at a 74.138 percent match rate.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/kml