

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 75 - HB 65

January 29, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Establishes required information the Department of Children's Services (DCS) must provide to an adoptive family to the extent the information is available, including non-identifying information regarding the child's biological or legal family. The provisions do not authorize or require the release of information that may lead to the discovery of the identity or location of the biological or legal relatives of the child.

Requires DCS to promulgate rules to govern the operation of a foster parent advocacy program in consultation with statewide foster parent associations and requires the rules to provide a minimum requirement that an advocate be educated in the procedures relevant to the departmental investigations of alleged abuse and neglect.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

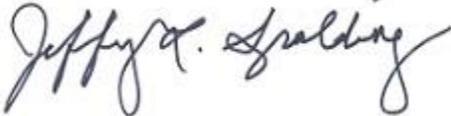
Assumptions:

- According to DCS, the provisions of the bill will make specific and expand the information the department can disclose about a child to pre-adoptive parents. This expansion will not result in a significant increase in the workload of DCS staff or resources.
- The proposed legislation removes the current reference to a specific foster care advocacy organization to select an individual advocate to participate in abuse and neglect investigations allowing the inclusion of other statewide foster care advocacy groups to provide advocacy services. This will not have a significant fiscal impact on the work and resources of the department.
- Any fiscal impact will not be significant and can be accommodated within existing services.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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