

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The effects of domestic violence on children can be serious and long term. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in the year 2000, an average of 2,400 children was victims of child abuse each day, many of which were at the hands of a parent. Additionally, an average of three children dies in this country every day because of child abuse or neglect. Children who are the victim of domestic violence may also experience developmental delays or behavioral health issues. Providers for domestic violence may remediate these risk factors through services such counseling and emergency shelter.

CYFD reports that the agency currently contracts with statewide domestic violence programs to provide direct services to domestic violence victims, child witnesses, and offenders; two coalitions to provide training and assistance; and one non-profit legal agency to provide legal services. The total amount of domestic violence funding for FY14 is \$11 million, and this bill provides funding to increase the number of services provided by domestic violence programs.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

CYFD maintains performance measures focusing on the safety of domestic violence victims and offender treatment/intervention programs.

RELATIONSHIP

Both the LFC and the executive budget recommendations included an expansion for CYFD for capacity building of domestic violence programming. The LFC recommendation includes \$500 thousand to build capacity of providers to serve children through the development of an evidence based model for domestic violence programs.

This bill is a companion bill to House Bill 134.

KK/ds