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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Stewart DATE TYPED: _____ HB 178

SHORT TITLE: Children of Prisoners Project SB _____

ANALYST: Chabot

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	\$125.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Related to SJM-15

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

Juvenile Parole Board (JPB)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 178 appropriates \$125.0 from the general fund to CYFD for the purpose of establishing a pilot project, in a county selected by the department, to provide counseling, education and transportation services to children of incarcerated parents. Two FTE with master's degrees in social work will staff the program.

Significant Issues

The intent of the bill is unclear as whether it is a program for youth of parents in CYFD facilities or youth with parents incarcerated in any facility throughout the state. JPB supports the bill but bases its support on a program for parents in CYFD facilities. They also recommend that an option for contracting out with a private organization could be considered.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$125.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year shall revert to the general fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

If the intent is to serve all children of incarcerated parents, CYFD would have to establish relationships with the Corrections Department, county and other officials to identify incarcerated individuals with children in need of services.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The state personnel classification system identifies social workers as social and community service coordinators. To be consistent, in lines 19 and 20, strike “to hire two master’s level social workers” and replace with for two full-time equivalent social and community service coordinators who have a master’s degree in social work”.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

CYFD is unsure if the two social workers would have to administer the program or whether contract assistance would be allowed.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

1. Should this program be administered by the Corrections Department who would have records on incarcerated parents in the state penal system?
2. If it is considered more effective, can CYFD contract out this program?

GAC/yr :pr