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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Ogle DATE TYPED: 3/218/03 HB HJM 118/aHFI#1

SHORT TITLE: Foster Parents Bill of Rights SB _____

ANALYST: Chabot

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Not Received From
Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HFI Amendment

The House Floor Amendment #1 extends the time for the progress report to the Legislature to November 2005.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Joint Memorial resolves CYFD adopt rules to implement principles as foster parent rights and involve the following in developing those rules: the Land of Enchantment Foster and Adoptive Parents Association, Incorporated; foster parents; a Citizens Review Board; Court-appointed Special Advocates; attorneys for biological parents; guardians at litem; judges of Children's Courts; special education teachers; therapists and counselors of children; department field office managers; department children's court attorneys; private agencies; and foster care treatment agencies. It further resolves the department will complete its rulemaking and report its progress to the appropriate interim legislative committee by November 2004.

Significant Issues

The memorial implies foster parents are not always included in developing treatment plans and other meetings affecting their foster child. This exclusion has an adverse affect on the relationship between the foster parents, the child and the department. Foster parents have a right to be active participants in any decisions relating to their foster child. The memorial requires foster care rights and coordination and cooperation between participants in programs and treatment plans relating to their child be written into department rules and regulations.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CYFD will have to hold rule-making hearings with the identified participants and draw rules and regulations concerning foster parents rights in the development of treatment plans and programs for foster children.

GAC/lis:njw