Liz Hruska May 19, 2015 471-0053

LB 265

Revision: 02

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

Revised based on amendments adopted through 5-19-15

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)					
	FY 2015-16		FY 2016-17		
_	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	
GENERAL FUNDS	263,732		259,232		
CASH FUNDS					
FEDERAL FUNDS	87,911		86,411		
OTHER FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS	351,643		345,643		

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

This bill expands the scope of the Foster Care Review Office (FCRO) to include children in out-of-home placements under the State Probation Office and trial home visits.

The FCRO indicated that it would need two additional review specialists and staff assistant for the reviews of children out-of-home care under probation and trial home visits. There are currently 600 children in out-of-home care under probation plus an unknown number in trial home visits. Each review specialist handles about 300 reviews each year.

As amended, the bill establishes the Out-of-Home Data Pilot Project and creates the Out-of-Home Data Pilot Project Advisory Committee. The purpose is to demonstrate how an existing state agency data system or systems currently used to account for children and juveniles in out-of-home placements could serve as a foundation for an independent, external oversight data warehouse. The project is to be administered by the Foster Care Review Office. It terminates on January 1, 2017. The Review Office would need a Research Assistant.

The total cost for the FCRO is \$351,343 (\$263,507 GF and \$87,836 FF) in FY 16 and \$345,643 (\$259,232 GF and \$86,411 FF) in FY 17.

The bill, as amended, states that ten percent of the annual General Fund appropriation to the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program, excluding administrative budget funds, shall be set aside for the development of a common data set and evaluation of the effectiveness of the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program. It allocates the 10% between the Crime Commission and the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Juvenile Justice Institute (UNO-JJI) as noted in the following table. Additionally, the following table shows the state aid amount before the 10% reallocation, the percentage and dollar amounts allocated to the Crime Commission and UNO-JJI, and the new aid amount after the reallocation:

ltem	FY16	FY17	FY18 & thereafter
State Aid	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000
Crime Commission	7%	6%	5%
UNO-JJI	3%	4%	5%
Crime Commission	490,000	420,000	350,000
UNO-JJI	210,000	280,000	350,000
TOTAL	700,000	700,000	700,000
New aid amount	6,300,000	6,300,000	6,300,000

The total General Fund appropriation for the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program does not change. Rather, the funds are reallocated from aid to operations.

The Crime Commission estimates that they will need to add an IT Business Systems Analyst for a salary of \$46,587 in FY16 and \$47,705 in FY17, plus benefits, operating, and travel. The funding for this item will come out of the Crime Commission's allocation as shown in the above-table.