

Revised based on amendments adopted through 5-13-19

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2019-20		FY 2020-21	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS	179,779		181,437	
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	179,779		181,437	

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

LB600, as introduced, updates reference to veterans’ homes, which are now under the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, for purposes of the duties of the deputy public counsel for institutions. The bill as amended repeals the sunset date for the Children’s Commission. The composition of the commission members is reconfigured and duties and responsibilities are changed. The amendment states Legislative intent to fund the Children’s Commission from the Health Care Cash Fund. As amended with AM 1650, youth who experience adoption disruptions or terminations of guardianships after they attain the age of 16 would be eligible for the Bridge to Independence Program. Eligibility is eliminated for youth who are living in a home and community-based residential placement paid by Medicaid or those living in another state.

The provisions regarding the duties of the deputy public counsel for institutions does not have a fiscal impact.

The cost to continue the Children’s Commission is \$179,779 in FY 2019-20 and \$181,437 in FY 2020-21. The continuation funding provided is the Commission’s base amount plus the approved salary and health insurance adjustments. The Commission’s fiscal note requests a higher amount. Since the Commission was to be terminated, no budget request was made. The request for additional funding did not go through the standard appropriation process and is not funded in this fiscal note.

AM 1650, expands the Bridge to Independence (B2I) Program to young adults who experience an adoption disruption or termination of a guardianship after they attained the age of 16 or have an adoption assistance agreement. The Department of Health and Human Services is directed to submit a state plan amendment by October 15, 2019 to cover the additional populations. The bill also eliminates Bridge payments to young adults who reside in a residence paid for through the Medicaid Program under a home and community-based waiver and to young adults who move out of state, unless placed there through the Interstate Compact.

The Bridge to Independent stipend is \$760 a month. Pregnant and parenting youth are eligible for an additional stipend of \$246 per child. As of last month there were 204 youth ages 16 to 18 with guardianships and 46 youth of the same age with adoption agreements who were adopted after their 16th birthday. The department estimated approximately 24 additional youth would receive the stipend. The elimination of stipends for youth who are in a residential placement covered by Medicaid and those residing outside of the state offsets the additional costs of stipends to the youth with adoption disruptions, terminated guardianships or adoption agreements.

Approximately 5 to 7 youth enrolled in B2I reside in a center for the developmentally disabled. These youth are currently paid the full amount of the stipend, but only allowed to retain \$60 a month. The balance offsets their Medicaid costs. For those who are Title IV-E eligible there would be no savings, as the match rates are the same for both programs. For those not eligible for Title IV-E, 54% of the payment would be a savings to the General Fund. There are 15 youth who are living in another state and receiving assistance. The elimination of eligibility for the youth in residential placements paid by Medicaid and those living in another state roughly equals the estimated number of youth who would newly qualify under the provision of this bill.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE		
LB: 600	AM: 1241	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Foster Care Review Office (070)
REVIEWED BY: Joe Wilcox	DATE: 05/02/2019	PHONE: (402) 471-4178
COMMENTS: No basis to dispute the Nebraska Foster Care Review Office estimate of potential but Fiscal Impact to the Agency from LB 630, as amended by AM 1241.		

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

2019

LB⁽¹⁾ 600, AM1241

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ 70 – FOSTER CARE REVIEW OFFICE

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ AMANDA FELTON Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 5/1/2019 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402-890-6510

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2019-20</u>		<u>FY 2020-21</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	<u>185,425</u>	<u> </u>	<u>190,047</u>	<u> </u>
CASH FUNDS	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
FEDERAL FUNDS	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
OTHER FUNDS	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>185,425</u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u>190,047</u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

Explanation of Estimate:

AM1241 of LB600 continues the Nebraska Children’s Commission (Commission) past its current sunset date of June 30, 2019 as a permanent forum for collaboration. Per LB600, AM1241, the Commission would continue to be housed under the Foster Care Review Office.

The Commission will continue to support the salary and benefits of its two staff positions: Administrative Assistant III and Child Welfare Policy Analyst. Other financial responsibilities include the cost of meetings for the Commission, its statutory Committees, and its multiple workgroups; reimbursement for mileage and lodging for members traveling to and from meetings; IT, communication, and facilitation expenses; and printing and supply costs.

We respectfully request the carry-over from FY2018 be re-appointed with the hope of expanding videoconferencing technology to increase the ability to engage stakeholders more efficiently at a statewide level.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>
	<u>19-20</u>	<u>20-21</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT III	<u>1.0</u>	<u>1.0</u>	<u>47,184</u>	<u>48,128</u>
CHILD WELFARE POLICY ANALYST	<u>1.0</u>	<u>1.0</u>	<u>58,641</u>	<u>59,814</u>
Benefits.....			<u>58,100</u>	<u>60,605</u>
Operating.....			<u>14,000</u>	<u>14,000</u>
Travel.....			<u>7,500</u>	<u>7,500</u>
Capital outlay.....			<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Aid.....			<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Capital improvements.....			<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL.....			<u><u>185,425</u></u>	<u><u>190,047</u></u>