

Revised to include an agency fiscal note

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2022-23		FY 2023-24	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	\$128,837		\$129,243	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$128,837		\$129,243	

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

Under this bill, the State Child and Maternal Death Review Team would be given the additional responsibility to develop an understanding of the causes and incidences of stillbirths and develop recommendations for changes to prevent stillbirths as well as advise policymakers and the public on practices that will prevent stillbirths. The team is given the authority but not required to review all stillbirths occurring on or after January 1, 2023, including death certificates and other documentation to allow the team to identify preventable causes of stillbirths.

The reviews are authorized to begin for stillbirths occurring on or after January 1, 2023. The Vital Records Division provides the State Child and Maternal Death Review Team with records in October of the following calendar year and the team begins reviews in January. The increase in workload would require an abstractor to be added to the review team. The costs would not occur until FY 2025. The estimated annual cost is \$129,000.

The bill as amended establishes the Domestic Abuse Death Review Act. The 19-member Domestic Violence Abuse Death Review Team is created. The review team shall: 1) conduct investigations to understand contributing factors in domestic violence abuse deaths, 2) examine the incidence, causes and contributing factors of domestic abuse deaths and 3) develop recommendations for changes. The Attorney General’s Office is responsible for administering the act and hiring or contracting for a coordinator. The cost for the coordinator and operating expensed of the committee is \$116,837in FY 2023 and \$118,034 in FY 2024.

This bill updates the state’s adoption statutes. It incorporates and defines all categories of fathers identified by the Supreme Court in case law and increases the time for a putative father to file an objection to an adoption. The Supreme Court will have minor expenses related to judicial education which will be handled within their existing resources. The Department of Health and Human Services estimates this could delay the adoption of up to 75 children in the child welfare system. The average daily rate for foster care is \$30.49. The range of additional costs are between \$11,209 and \$33,626.

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop and publish informational materials for women who may become pregnant, expectant parents and parents of infants on the causes, transmission, methods of diagnosis and prevention of cytomegalovirus. The department shall publish the materials on their website and make them available to child care facilities, school nurses, hospitals, birthing facilities and health care providers offering care to pregnant women and infants upon request.

The printing and staff time needed to develop the information can be absorbed within existing agency resources. There is no fiscal impact.

LB⁽¹⁾ 741 AM1683 AM2402, FISCAL NOTE
AM2358 REVISION 2

2022

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

State Agency or Political Subdivision Name:(2) Department of Health and Human Services

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Date Prepared : 03/24/2022

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	<u>FY 2022-2023</u>		<u>FY 2023-2024</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	\$33,626		\$34,301	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$33,626	\$0	\$34,301	\$0

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

This bill would add stillbirth reviews to the Child and Maternal Death Review Team (CMDRT) authority. Currently, the CMDRT reviews approximately 250 deaths of children ages 0-17 and 10 maternal deaths per year. In the past five years, stillbirths have ranged from 108-174 occurrences annually.

LB 741 states that reviews may begin on all stillbirths occurring on or after January 1, 2023. The current process of death reviews begins in October of the following year. Vital Records releases the final files for death reviews to the CMDRT by October of the following calendar year with CMDRT beginning reviews in January. Therefore, stillbirths that occur in the calendar year 2023 would not begin review until January of 2025.

The amended bill (AM 1683) requires DHHS to provide a coordinator for each Team (Child and Maternal) and one data abstractor total. Currently, the program has the equivalent of two coordinators and a 0.2 FTE nurse abstractor. If this bill passes, the program would at a minimum increase the nurse abstractor by .80 FTE to a full FTE. The current abstractor has other assigned duties, so the program would need to hire/procure a new abstractor.

AM 1683 strikes the impact of an additional 1.0 FTE Health Surveillance Specialist and 0.5 FTE Epidemiologist.

The estimated general fund cost based on the current FY21-22 pay plan is provided below to represent future fiscal years FY 2024-2025 and FY 2025-2026.

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2024-2025	2025-2026
	24-25	25-26	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
V74650 DHHS Nurse Consultant	1	1	\$74,718	\$74,718
Benefits.....			\$25,576	\$25,576
Operating.....			\$28,885	\$28,885
TOTAL.....			\$129,179	\$129,179

AM 2402 also requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to create, publish and distribute informational materials on the prevention and treatment of Cytomegalovirus (CMV). The materials are also to be published on the DHHS website. The CMV informational materials are to be given to all pregnant women by health care providers as well as other providers as specified upon request. DHHS does not currently provide specific information on CMV.

This estimate is based upon creating, publishing and distributing CMV informational materials through the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention program (EDHI). The average number of births in Nebraska per year is just under 30,000. Therefore, this estimate is based on 30,000 booklets being printed annually by the State Print Shop at a cost of \$5,382.00 out of general funds. The department will absorb these costs.

It is estimated that EHDI program staff would coordinate with DHHS Communications staff in the development of the materials and take approximately 16 hours.

It is estimated that it will take around 4 hours per week of staff time from the EDHI programs Community Health Educator /Senior to take orders and mail orders.

It is further estimated that there will be questions from medical staff at hospitals concerning testing modalities that are suggested in the literature of about 2 hours a week. These questions will likely need to be answered by the Newborn Screening Bloodspot/Genetics Inherited Disease Specialists.

The estimated staffing cost including benefits and operations is \$18,412 in FY22-23 and \$19,964 in FY23-24. This estimate is based on work beginning October 1, 2023 and would be funded within Program 033 Program 262 – Public Health Administration – General Funds. The department will absorb these costs.

AM 2358 extends the timeframe for objection to adoption. Department staff workload for cases involving children who are born out of wedlock may increase. An estimate of 75 youth per year could have a delay in permanency because of the father’s identity being unknown at the time adoption filings are submitted. The delay in the date of the adoption hearing would result in the child remaining in the Department’s care five to fifteen additional days. The average rate of \$29.89 per day for 75 youth could increase state maintenance payments \$11,209 for five additional days up to \$33,626 for fifteen additional days for SFY 2023. The average rate of \$30.49 per day for 75 youth could increase state maintenance payments \$11,434 for five additional days up to \$34,301 for fifteen additional days for SFY 2024. The increase in expenditures will be funded through Program 354, Child Welfare Aid general funds.

The amendment also replaces the term biological father in the Department’s registry.

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE				
PERSONAL SERVICES:				
POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2022-2023	2023-2024
	22-23	23-24	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....				
Capital Outlay.....				
Aid.....			\$33,626	\$34,301
Capital Improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			\$33,626	\$34,301