



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 18-0904 Date: September 24, 2018
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Fields Bill Status: Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: JUVENILE PLANNING COMMITTEE CROSSOVER YOUTH PLANS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:
State Revenue, State Expenditure (minimal, potential), State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

This bill requires local juvenile services planning committees to devise plans for youths who are involved in both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. It will increase state and local government workload, and potentially increases state costs, on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary of Legislation

This bill requires local juvenile services planning committees to develop a plan for identifying youths in the juvenile justice system who also are or have been involved in the child welfare system (dually identified crossover youths). The plan must establish a method for exchanging information with other judicial districts and for sharing case information about these youths between the various agencies involved. The plan must also include processes to:

- identify appropriate services pr placement-based assessment;
share and gather information;
develop a single case management plan;
identify the lead agency for case management; and
create a multidisciplinary group of professionals to consider various aspects of a youth's case.

In addition, the bill requires that a dually identified crossover youth who is placed in a secure detention facility and who is eligible for release be placed in the least restrictive setting whenever possible to reduce disparities compared to other youths in secure detention. Lastly, the bill allows for Marijuana Tax Cash Fund money to be used to pay for local planning and services for dually identified crossover youths.

Background

Under current law, cities and counties may choose to form a juvenile services planning committee for their judicial district. Members of a local planning committees are appointed by the Chief Judge of the judicial district or by the presiding judge of the Denver Juvenile Court based on recommendations of the county commissioners and city councils within the judicial district. To the extent practical, a local committee must include representatives from the county department of human or social services, cities, a local school district, a local law enforcement agency, a local probation department, the Division of Youth Services in the Department of Human Services (DHS), the district attorney's office, the public defender's office, the community mental health services sector, and members of the public. The local committee is responsible for developing a plan for the allocation of resources for juvenile services within its judicial district.

State Expenditures

Starting in the current FY 2017-18, the bill increases workload for staff in the Division of Youth Services in the DHS, the Probation Division of the Judicial Department, and the Public Defender's Office to the extent that these staff are appointed to local juvenile services planning committees and additional work is needed to conduct the process and case planning required under the bill. In addition, the Office of the Respondent Parents' Counsel and the Office of the Child's Representative may have additional workload and costs to discuss additional case planning and services in cases involving dually identified crossover youths. These impacts are assumed to be minimal and no changes in appropriations are required for any state agency.

The bill allows for Marijuana Tax Cash Fund money to be spent on the processes required under the bill. At this time, no specific expenditures have been identified; however, additional appropriations may be requested by the DHS in the future through the budget process based upon the plans developed by local committees.

Local Government

Similar to the state impact described above, starting in the current FY 2017-18, staff in county departments of human and social services, local law enforcement agencies, school districts, municipalities, and other local agencies that participate in local juvenile services planning committees will have additional workload to create the required planning processes under the bill. In addition, case managers in county departments of human and social services may be required to spend additional time on cases involving dually identified crossover youths and may have additional costs for services under the locally developed plan. Local agencies may have some savings in staff time to the extent that consolidation of case management responsibilities for crossover youths reduces duplication of effort.

It is assumed that counties will manage any additional costs within their current allocation of child welfare block grant funding and other revenue streams. In the event that Marijuana Tax Cash Fund money is appropriated for the purposes of this bill, local revenue will increase; however, the amount of any funding is dependent on future budget decisions of the General Assembly.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on April 25, 2018.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties	District Attorneys	Human Services
Information Technology	Judicial	Revenue