



Legislative Council Staff
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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 24-0345
Prime Sponsors:

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Bill Status: Bill Request
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Bill Topic: **WHOLE HEALTH COORDINATION PILOT PROGRAM**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill creates a pilot program in the Department of Human Services to coordinate medical care for youths in foster care. The bill increases state expenditures through FY 2027-28.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2024-25, the bill requires an appropriation of \$1,381,727 to the Department of Human Services

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the bill draft requested by the Child Welfare System Interim Study Committee.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under Bill 4

		Budget Year FY 2024-25	Out Year FY 2025-26
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	General Fund	\$1,371,746	\$1,365,076
	Federal Funds	\$9,981	\$9,981
	Centrally Appropriated Costs	\$18,519	\$18,519
	Total Expenditures	\$1,400,246	\$1,393,576
	Total FTE	1.0 FTE	1.0 FTE
Transfers		-	-
Other Budget Impacts	General Fund Reserve	\$205,762	\$204,761

Summary of Legislation

The bill creates a pilot program under the Department of Human Services (CDHS) to track and coordinate medical care for children in out-of-home placements and provide additional support. Under the pilot program, the CDHS must:

- create a network of healthcare professionals;
- connect foster kids, families, and caseworkers to the network;
- develop a system for information sharing among all parties that abides by privacy laws; and
- provide additional support for foster kids with complex needs.

The CDHS will select three counties to participate in the program (one urban, one rural, and one mixed) and contract with child abuse pediatric centers (resource centers) to design and facilitate the program. The CDHS will coordinate with the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) and the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE).

The program must provide services for three years starting January 1, 2024. The CDHS must select the counties by November 1, 2024, and contract with resource centers by October 1, 2024. The CDHS must analyze and report on the program's effectiveness and make recommendations for the program's continuation in its 2027 annual report. The pilot program is repealed January 1, 2028.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in the CDHS by \$1.4 million per year from FY 2024-25 through FY 2026-27, paid primary from the General Fund. Costs are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below.

Table 2
Expenditures Under Bill 4

	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Department of Human Services		
Personal Services	\$76,777	\$76,777
Operating Expenses	\$1,280	\$1,280
Capital Outlay Costs	\$6,670	-
Contractor	\$1,297,000	\$1,297,000
Centrally Appropriated Costs ¹	\$18,519	\$18,519
Total Cost	\$1,400,246	\$1,393,576
Total FTE	1.0 FTE	1.0 FTE

¹ Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Staff. The CDHS requires 1.0 FTE will be responsible for developing the program, finding and managing a contractor who will operate the program, and to collect and analyze data for the required report. It is anticipated that staff will receive a 13 percent federal match. Costs reflect a July 1, 2024 start date for this staff and include standard operating and capital outlay. It is assumed costs for this staff will continue through the program's repeal on January 1, 2028.

Contractor. Contractor costs were estimated on the assumptions that 744 children will be served by the program and that contract staff can manage services for 90 children. In addition, the contractor will require 2 administrative staffers. In total, the contractor is estimated to cost about \$1.3 million per year from FY 2024-25 through FY 2026-27, paid from the General Fund.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are shown in Table 2.

Local Government

Selected counties will have an increased workload to participate in the pilot program, primarily for child welfare caseworkers to coordinate services with the contractor and for information sharing with the CDHS and contractor.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

For FY 2024-25, the bill requires an appropriation of \$1,381,727 to the Department of Human Services, including \$1,371,746 General Fund and \$9,981 federal funds, and 1.0 FTE.

State and Local Government Contacts

Health Care Policy and Financing
Behavioral Health Administration

Human Services
Child Welfare

Public Health and Environment
Judicial