OFFICE OF FAITH AND COMMUNITY LIAISON



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HOUSE BILL 4157 SUBSTITUTE H-5

Sponsor: Rep. Doug Hart

House Committee: Family and Children Services

FLOOR ANALYSIS - 2/22/02 Analyst(s): Robin Risko

SUMMARY

House Bill 4157 (H-5) would create the Office of Faith and Community Liaison as an autonomous entity within the Department of Management and Budget. The Office of Faith and Community Liaison would be responsible for the following: providing charitable choice education to state agencies and to faith and community organizations that provide human services and initiatives that serve the needy; participating in hearings and meetings concerning how state agencies relate to Michigan faith communities; gathering information concerning state and national innovations regarding faith and community organizations partnering with state agencies in other states; and analyzing obstacles to faith and community organizations partnering with state agencies. The Faith and Community Liaison would serve as the Executive Director of the Office, would be appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor, and would be required to meet criteria which is specified in the bill. Also, the Faith and Community Liaison would be required to submit an annual report on yearly activities, and include in the report any recommendations regarding changes needed in the rules or policies concerning human service contracting with faith and community-based organizations.

House Bill 4157 (H-5) prohibits the Office of Faith and Community Liaison from receiving more than \$200,000 in state funds annually. Therefore, given this language, the maximum cost to the state would be \$200,000 annually. Costs would be incurred for the creation and maintenance of the Office of Faith and Community Liaison. The following types of operational costs could be expected: salaries and fringe benefits, travel, telephones, training/education, postage, printing, office supplies, equipment, maintenance, contractual services, rent, and technology-related costs.