

FIA CONTRACTS WITH RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS



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FISCAL ANALYSIS

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HOUSE BILL 5316 SUBSTITUTE H-3

Sponsor: Rep. Mark Jansen

House Committee: Family and Children Services

FLOOR ANALYSIS - 2/25/02

Analyst(s): Myron Freeman

SUMMARY

HB 5316 amends 1939 PA 280, entitled "The social welfare act" by adding the sections contained within this bill. HB 5316 would allow the Family Independence Agency (FIA) to contract with a charitable or religious organization to administer programs or to perform a duty on behalf of the Family Independence Agency. Federal, State or Local funds used in this manner are for the sole purpose of serving the FIA client and not support for, or endorsement of, religion or the organization's religious beliefs or practices. Fund received under this act shall be maintained in a separate account and audited and accounted for separately as well.

If a recipient has an objection to the religious character of the organization from which he or she is to receive services, then the department will assure that an alternative provider with similar services is made available to recipient.

HB 5316 would create no significant cost impact to the state nor to the local governments.