

# Fiscal Analysis

## COURT APPORTIONED BIRTH EXPENSES



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**Bill/Sponsor**                      **HOUSE BILL 4768 SUBSTITUTE H-1, Rep. Doug Hart**

**House Committee**                Judiciary

### **Analysis**

#### **Summary**

This bill would amend PA 205, The Paternity Act of 1956, to require the court to apportion the expenses of the mother's confinement and pregnancy between the parents when a child is born out of wedlock. The parent who did not pay the expense would be ordered to pay his or her share to the other parent. If Medicaid has paid the confinement and pregnancy expenses, the court shall not apportion these expenses to the mother, and the father shall be apportioned not more than 100% of these expenses, based on his ability to pay. If the father marries the mother after the birth of the child, the father's obligation for payment of any remaining confinement and pregnancy expenses is tolled for the duration of the marriage.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

This bill will raise court administrative costs by a moderate, but indeterminate, amount. This bill will have no fiscal impact on the Family Independence Agency

### **Analyst(s)**

Richard Child

**FLOOR ANALYSIS - 7/2/03**

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