

Fiscal Analysis

FOSTER CARE FOCUS GROUPS



Bill/Sponsor **HOUSE BILL 5183 H-1, Rep. John E. Stahl**

House Committee **Family and Children Services**

Analysis

Summary

HB 5183 would amend the Social Welfare Act by requiring the Family Independence Agency (FIA) to establish and administer a state plan for foster care programs and requiring the state plan to include programs that support and implement foster care focus groups. FIA would be required to utilize input from focus groups when developing foster care related policy and services. Foster care focus groups would be composed of youth in foster care or independent living, youth previously in foster care, and foster parents or relatives caring for youth in foster care. The legislation encourages private and public agencies to establish focus groups.

Fiscal Impact

It appears that the legislation would have no fiscal impact. FIA has established a plan and is currently conducting youth focus groups to gather input on foster care and independent living services. If additional costs are recognized during implementation, HB 5183 allows for the use of funds already appropriated for related services.

Analyst(s)

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