



Senate Fiscal Agency
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BILL



ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 421 (as reported by the Committee of the Whole)

Sponsor: Senator Rick Jones

Committee: Families, Seniors and Human Services

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Act to revise the definition of "neglect".

The Act provides for the establishment of the State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board, which is currently located in the Department of Health and Human Services. The Board's responsibilities include providing for the coordination and exchange of information on the establishment and maintenance of prevention programs (systems that provide direct child abuse and neglect prevention services to children, parents, and guardians); and providing statewide public seminars for the purpose developing awareness regarding the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The Board may authorize the disbursement of available money in the Children's Trust Fund, upon appropriation, to fund organizations in the development or operation of prevention programs; to fund local councils (organizations whose primary purpose is the development and facilitation of a collaborative community prevention program); and to fund the Board's operating expenses.

The Act defines "neglect" as harm to a child's health or welfare by a person responsible for the child's health or welfare that occurs through negligent treatment, including the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care.

Under the bill, neglect would mean harm, as described above, that occurred through negligent treatment, including the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care though, in the court's discretion, financially able to do so or, in the court's discretion, the failure to seek financial or other reasonable means to do so.

MCL 722.602

Legislative Analyst: Nathan Leaman

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Date Completed: 11-29-17

Fiscal Analyst: John Maxwell