

HB 551-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0680

04/05

HOUSE BILL

551-FN

AN ACT relative to department of children, youth, and families tracking and publishing statistics.

SPONSORS: Rep. Corcoran, Hills. 44

COMMITTEE: Children and Family Law

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the division of children, youth, and families to establish a website to track certain data and statistics and creates a private right of action for aggrieved citizens to file a civil action against the division.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT relative to department of children, youth, and families tracking and publishing statistics.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Section; Services for Children, Youth, and Families; DCYF Statistics. Amend RSA 170-G
2 by inserting after section 8-c the following new section:

3 170-G:8-d Statistics.

4 I. The division for children, youth, and families (DCYF) shall maintain a webpage, located at
5 a URL consisting of their primary domain name with the extension "/statistics". All pages at the
6 website that have a navigation bar or menu shall have a link to the statistics page, styled in a way
7 as to be coequal in font size, color, and all other respects with other elements in the navigation bar or
8 menu.

9 II. The statistics page shall contain the following information, for every year from the date
10 that this bill becomes law onward, per year:

11 (a) Number of children taken into DCYF care.

12 (b) Total DYCF budget for the year, divided by number of children taken into DCYF care
13 during that year.

14 (c) Total DYCF imputed budget for the year, consisting of DCYF budget plus \$100 per
15 day per child in foster care, said amount to be corrected by the inflation rate every year after the
16 adoption of this law, divided by number of children taken into DCYF care during that year.

17 (d) Number and percent of such children who saw doctors for a physical evaluation
18 within 7 days of coming into DCYF care.

19 (e) Number and percent of such children who saw doctors for a physical evaluation
20 between 8 and 30 days of coming into DCYF care.

21 (f) Number and percent of such children who saw doctors for a physical evaluation
22 between 30 and 60 days of coming into DCYF care.

23 (g) Number and percent of such children who did not see doctors for an physical
24 evaluation within 60 days.

25 (h) Number and percent of such children who saw therapists or psychologists for a
26 psychological evaluation within 7 days of coming into DCYF care.

27 (i) Number and percent of such children who saw therapists or psychologists for a
28 psychological evaluation between 8 and 30 days of coming into DCYF care.

29 (j) Number and percent of such children who saw therapists or psychologists for a
30 psychological evaluation between 30 and 60 days of coming into DCYF care.

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1 (k) Number and percent of such children who did not see therapists or psychologists for
2 a psychological evaluation within 60 days.

3 (l) Number and percent of such children who had all of their required immunizations by
4 the first date of the school year.

5 (m) Number and percent of such children who did not have all of their required
6 immunizations by the first date of the school year.

7 (n) Number and percent of such children who were determined not to need
8 individualized education placements (IEP) by the first day of school.

9 (o) Number and percent of such children who had IEPs by the first day of school

10 (p) Number and percent of such children who were not determined to not need IEPs, but
11 did not have IEPs by the first day of school.

12 (q) Number and percent of such children who did not have all of their required
13 immunizations by the first date of the school year.

14 (r) Number and percent of children taken into DCYF care whose caregivers at the time
15 of DCYF taking the children into their care, are later found guilty by the DCYF of neglect.

16 (s) Number and percent of children taken into DCYF care whose caregivers at the time
17 of DCYF taking the children into their care, are later found guilty by the DCYF of neglect, and with
18 which the DYCF later reunite the children

19 (t) Number and percent of children taken into DCYF care whose caregivers at the time
20 of DCYF taking the children into their care, are not found guilty by the DCYF of neglect.

21 III. If DCYF does maintain such a website with at least 99 percent uptime, the director of
22 DCYF shall be relieved of his or her position and no division or department of New Hampshire
23 government shall employ or retain as a contractor in any capacity the relieved director.

24 IV. There shall be a private right of action whereby any citizen of New
25 Hampshire may initiate a legal challenge against DCYF for not maintaining such a page, and the
26 state of New Hampshire, department of health and human services, shall be liable for reasonable
27 attorney's fees and costs incurred in an action under this section.

28 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

LBA
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1/9/23

**HB 551-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT relative to department of children, youth, and families tracking and publishing statistics.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Due to time constraints, the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant is unable to provide a fiscal note for this bill, **as introduced**, at this time. When completed, the fiscal note will be forwarded to the House Clerk's Office.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Health and Human Services