



Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: **SB0468.01: Establish central registry for individuals who are the subject of a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect**

Primary Sponsor: Dennis Lenz Status: As Introduced

☐ Included in the Executive Budget
 ☒ Needs to be included in HB 2
 ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact
☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts
 ☐ Technical Concerns
 ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

| | <u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u> | <u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u> | <u>FY 2028</u> <u>Difference</u> | <u>FY 2029</u> <u>Difference</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Expenditures | | | | |
| General Fund (01) | \$193,521 | \$193,521 | \$196,424 | \$199,370 |
| Federal Special Revenue (03) | \$82,938 | \$82,938 | \$84,182 | \$85,445 |
| Revenues | | | | |
| General Fund (01) | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Federal Special Revenue (03) | \$82,938 | \$82,938 | \$84,182 | \$85,445 |
| Net Impact | <u>(\$193,521)</u> | <u>(\$193,521)</u> | <u>(\$196,424)</u> | <u>(\$199,370)</u> |
| General Fund Balance | | | | |

Description of fiscal impact

SB 468 establishes a statewide central registry for substantiated or founded reports of child abuse or neglect. The bill requires the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) to attend hearings before the district court prior to adding an individual to the statewide central registry for substantiated or founded reports of child abuse or neglect. The bill also creates new hearings in district court and is expected to have a minor impact on judicial workload and resources.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

Department of Public Health and Human Services

- SB 468 Section 2 (1) requires the department attend a hearing for adjudication before the district court prior to adding an individual to the central registry of child abuse and neglect investigations established in Section 1. Section 2 (4) requires an adjudication hearing be held in conjunction with a show cause hearing in a dependent neglect case. In FY 2024 there were 1,520 substantiated or founded reports of neglect or abuse. Of those, 537 resulted in legal proceedings which would be required to include a show cause hearing. The remaining 983 substantiated or founded reports would also require a hearing prior to being added to the central registry. (1,520 substantiated or founded reports - 537 requiring legal action = 983 remaining reports requiring a hearing).
- Hearings for the remaining 983 substantiated or founded reports with no other legal action would be additional workload with short timeframes for that which is already currently required by federal regulation or state law under.

3. It is estimated to take one hour to write the hearing report, and three hours for the hearing of child protection (CPS) staff time. These substantiated report hearings would occur at an average of \$70.31 per overtime hour cost of CPS staff. FY 2026 and FY 2027 overtime costs would be \$276,459 (983 additional reports requiring a hearing x four hours per report = 3,932 additional hours x \$70.31 average hourly cost = \$276,459). With an annual increase of 1.5% per year, overtime hour costs would be, in FY 2028 \$280,606 ($1.015 \times \$276,459 = \$280,606$), in FY 2029 \$284,815 ($1.015 \times \$280,606 = \$284,815$).
4. CFSD administrative expenditures are federally allowable expenditures under Title IV-E of the Social Securities Act at a federal participation rate of 30%, the remaining 70% of expenditures are funded with state general funds.

Judiciary

5. SB 468 provides that a substantiated determination of child abuse and neglect must be reviewed and upheld by a district court prior to the individual being listed on the registry.
6. Section 2 allows for the hearing related to the registry to be done during the adjudication hearing or show cause hearing for substantiated reports with legal action. For substantiated reports without legal action, a separate new hearing will be necessary.
7. Section 4 permits an individual listed on the central registry to request to have their name removed from the registry by submitting a written request to the department. If the department denies the request, the individual may petition the district court for expungement. This creates a new hearing in district court.
8. SB 468 establishes new hearings. The Judicial Branch is unable to estimate the impact on judicial workload or the fiscal impact. The new hearings created by this bill will push out other cases already on the docket, which could ultimately create backlog. Additionally, the cumulative impact of such legislation may over time require additional judicial resources as generally court dockets are full throughout the state.

Fiscal Analysis Table

| Department of Public Health and Human Services | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | FY 2026 Difference | FY 2027 Difference | FY 2028 Difference | FY 2029 Difference |
| <u>Fiscal Impact</u> | | | | |
| <u>Expenditures</u> | | | | |
| Personal Services | \$276,459 | \$276,459 | \$280,606 | \$284,815 |
| TOTAL Expenditures | \$276,459 | \$276,459 | \$280,606 | \$284,815 |
| <u>Funding of Expenditures</u> | | | | |
| General Fund (01) | \$193,521 | \$193,521 | \$196,424 | \$199,370 |
| Federal Special Revenue (03) | \$82,938 | \$82,938 | \$84,182 | \$85,445 |
| TOTAL Funding of Expenditures | \$276,459 | \$276,459 | \$280,606 | \$284,815 |
| <u>Revenues</u> | | | | |
| Federal Special Revenue (03) | \$82,938 | \$82,938 | \$84,182 | \$85,445 |
| TOTAL Revenues | \$82,938 | \$82,938 | \$84,182 | \$85,445 |
| <u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures)</u> | | | | |
| General Fund (01) | (\$193,521) | (\$193,521) | (\$196,424) | (\$199,370) |
| Federal Special Revenue (03) | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

amended fiscal note ordered

NO SPONSOR SIGNATURE

Sponsor's Initials

3/17
Date

Budget Director's Initials

3/7/2025
Date