



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: **HB0690.01: Generally revise laws related to child protection**

Primary Sponsor: **Bill Mercer**

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**

|                             | <b><u>FY 2026</u></b><br><b><u>Difference</u></b> | <b><u>FY 2027</u></b><br><b><u>Difference</u></b> | <b><u>FY 2028</u></b><br><b><u>Difference</u></b> | <b><u>FY 2029</u></b><br><b><u>Difference</u></b> |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Expenditures</b>         |   |   |   |   |
| General Fund (01)           | \$0   | \$0   | \$0   | \$0   |
| <b>Revenues</b>             |   |   |   |   |
| General Fund (01)           | \$0   | \$0   | \$0   | \$0   |
| <b>Net Impact</b>           | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  |
| <b>General Fund Balance</b> | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  | <u>\$0</u>  |

### **Description of fiscal impact**

HB 690 revises child abuse and neglect laws to clarify definitions of abuse and neglect and revises certain related disclosure laws. HB 690 does not have a fiscal impact to the state.

### **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

#### **Assumptions**

##### **Judiciary**

1. HB 690 would generally revise child abuse and neglect laws to define the term to not include a child who has been raised in a manner consistent with the child's biological sex.
2. Section 2 amends 41-3-205. It would allow a member of the United States Congress or a member of the Montana Legislature to challenge a designation of attorney client privilege in district court.
3. A new hearing, however the branch does not anticipate there would be a significant impact to the branch.

##### **Department of Public Health and Human Services**

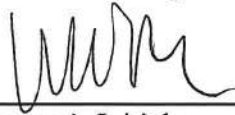
1. HB 690 revises child abuse and neglect laws to clarify definitions of abuse and neglect and revises certain related disclosure laws. HB 690 does not have a fiscal impact to the department.

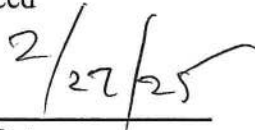
##### **Department of Justice**

1. The Appellate Services Bureau may see an increase in appeals associated with HB 690, but it is very difficult to forecast the potential fiscal impact.
2. Section 2 amendments referring to disclosure of information to the parent or legal guardian and the prompt release to the office of the child and family ombudsman will have no fiscal impact on how disclosure is currently handled.

**Fiscal Note Request - As Introduced**

*(continued)*

  
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Sponsor's Initials

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Budget Director's Initials

2/27/2025  
Date