

# Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

122<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of Ohio

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BILL: Sub H. B. 173 (LSC 122 0489-3) DATE: September 9, 1997  
STATUS: In House Family Services SPONSOR: Rep. Ford  
LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: Yes  
CONTENTS: Requires a public or private entity that places a child who has been adjudicated a delinquent child for certain acts in a foster home to inform the foster caregiver about the child's background

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## State Fiscal Highlights

STATE FUND	FY 1997	FY 1998	FUTURE YEARS
<b>General Revenue Fund</b>			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
<b>Other State Funds</b>			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

## Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FY 1998	FY 1999	FUTURE YEARS
<b>Counties</b>			
Revenues	- Potential indeterminate - gain -	- Potential indeterminate - gain -	- Potential indeterminate - gain -
Expenditures	-indeterminate increase	-indeterminate increase	-indeterminate increase

- By requiring the entity that places the child in the foster home to conduct a psychological examination of the child, expenditures for the counties would increase.
- If such costs were covered under Medicaid, the county agency would receive 60 percent reimbursement for these expenditures.

## Detailed Fiscal Analysis

This bill prohibits an entity from placing a child who is adjudicated delinquent because of certain acts into foster home until the entity provides foster caregivers with information about the child's social history.



This includes the acts the child committed resulting in the delinquency adjudication; other violent acts the child committed; any threat the child poses to the foster caregivers or community and psychiatric and psychological examinations of the child.

The purpose of this bill is to ensure that foster caregivers are given all the information that is available about a child who is to be placed in their home. More specifically, it targets those children presently adjudicated delinquent and those who have prior adjudications of delinquency. According to a spokesperson with the Ohio Association of Public Children Services Agencies, there are nearly 2,300 children adjudicated delinquent or unruly each year.

If the entities required to divulge information about these children prior to their placement must pay for the cost of the psychological or psychiatric testing, expenditures for such entities would increase. However, if such entities use existing community resources to access psychological services using Medicaid, such expenditures could be partially paid by the federal government. The federal government would pay nearly 60 percent of the cost.

The public children services agencies and the juvenile courts may incur some additional administrative costs associated with the provision of information to foster caregivers. The level of increase cannot be determined at this time.

### ***Synopsis of Changes from Preceding Version***

There is no change in the fiscal effects in this version of the bill when compared to the previous LSC-122 0489-2 version of the bill.

□ *LBO staff: Clarence Campbell, Senior Analyst*

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