

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7288**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1531

**NOTE PREPARED:** Apr 12, 2021

**BILL AMENDED:** Apr 12, 2021

**SUBJECT:** DCS and the Education Community.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. DeVon

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Sen. Houchin

**BILL STATUS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) The bill defines "exigent circumstances" for purposes of action taken by the Department of Child Services (DCS) with respect to a child.

It allows DCS to interview a child at the child's school, except for at a nonaccredited nonpublic school with less than one employee, without parental consent if:

- (1) the DCS employee presents their credentials upon arrival at the school; and
- (2) DCS presents a written statement that DCS has parental consent, a court order, or exigent circumstances.

The bill requires that the written statement shall not be maintained in the child's file and must protect the child's and child's family's confidentiality. It mandates that DCS provide assurances that the child's school, or its representative, has been invited to participate in the case plan process.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2021.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The bill will minimally increase workload for the DCS to provide case plan meeting notices to a child's school.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** Schools may have additional costs to provide a representative to participate in a case plan process and workload to determine whether a DCS employee may interview a child at school without parental permission.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** DCS.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Schools.

**Information Sources:**

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