

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

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6596
BILL NUMBER: SB 171

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 2, 2024
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Reunification Plan for a Child in Need of Services.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Walker G
FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Lauer

BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill amends the circumstances under which reasonable efforts to reunify a child with the child's parent, guardian, or custodian or preserve a child's family are not required.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Under the bill, the Department of Child Services (DCS) would not be required to exercise reasonable efforts to reunify a child with the child's parent, guardian, or custodian if the child has been adjudicated a CHINS on two or more separate occasions and was removed from the home of the parent, guardian, or custodian. This bill may increase the number of CHINS in state care (and state expenditures) if DCS is no longer required to use reasonable efforts to reunify a CHINS with a parent, guardian, or custodian.

The number of CHINS in the state who have been adjudicated a CHINS on two or more separate occasions and removed from the home of the parent, guardian, or custodian is indeterminable. However, the number of cases affected by this bill are expected to be minimal.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Child Services.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Corrin Harvey, 317-234-9438.