



April 12, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Revises the definition of ‘seclusion’ in relation to administrative procedures at juvenile detention facilities approved, certified, or licensed by the Department of Children’s Services (DCS).

Prohibits the DCS from using seclusion for discipline, punishment, administrative convenience, retaliation, staffing shortages, or any reason other than a temporary response to behavior that threatens immediate harm to a youth or others.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (006990): Deletes and rewrites all language after the enacting clause such that the only substantive changes are: (1) authorizes a facility administrator, following a period of seclusion, to review the seclusion and authorize an additional two-hour period if appropriate; (2) prohibits the administrator from authorizing more than two subsequent, consecutive periods of seclusion, or more than six total hours of seclusion within a 24-hour period, and; (3) authorizes DCS to provide, by rule or policy, alternative options for a child who cannot safely rejoin the rest of the resident population following the maximum period of seclusion.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumption for the bill as amended:

- Based on information provided by the DCS, the proposed legislation will not alter existing Department policies or procedures; therefore, any fiscal impact to DCS is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Handwritten signature of Krista Lee Carsner in black ink.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jj