

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 2227 – SB 2135

March 14, 2018

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Creates the Department of Children’s Services (DCS) Oversight Committee consisting of 18 legislative members for the purpose of reviewing laws, policies, rules regulations and budgetary priorities on children and youth. Requires the Committee meet at least eight times a year and at the call of the chair. Authorizes members to receive reimbursement for expenses at the same rates and in the same manner as when attending the General Assembly.

Authorizes the Committee to employ staff and enter into contracts for technical or professional services. Requires the Committee to timely publish a report following the conclusion of any regular annual session occurring in an even-numbered year that summarizes the Committee’s activities, findings, recommendations, and proposals. A copy of such report shall be distributed to each member of the General Assembly.

Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) to report at least twice a year to the Committee concerning the performance of duties and responsibilities relative to the Tennessee Model Dropout Prevention Program and funding recommendations. Requires the Commissioner of the DCS to report at least three times a year.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures – \$10,000/One-Time
\$179,000/Recurring

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (015129): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Creates the Department of Children’s Services (DCS) Oversight Committee consisting of 18 legislative members for the purpose of monitoring the DCS and the Division of Juvenile Justice to determine whether the department is accurately and adequately accomplishing its goals in meeting the needs of the children and families in this state. Requires the Committee to meet bi-monthly during session.

Requires the Committee to utilize current staff of the General Assembly to staff the Committee. Requires the Committee to report annually or more often if necessary, on the Committee’s activities, findings, recommendations, and proposals. A copy of such report shall be distributed to the Governor and each member of the General Assembly.

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Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) to report at least twice a year to the Committee concerning the performance of duties and responsibilities relative to the Tennessee Model Dropout Prevention Program and funding recommendations. Requires the Commissioner of the DCS to report at least three times a year. Requires the DCS, the Department of Finance and Administration, the Department of Human Services, and the Fiscal Review Committee to provide the Committee with any information needed.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The Speaker of the Senate will appoint nine senators and the Speaker of the House of Representatives will appoint nine representatives to serve on the committee.
- Such members will be entitled to compensation for their services and reimbursement for travel and other expenses incurred while attending meetings.
- The Committee will meet bi-monthly only during legislative sessions. Therefore, any increase in state expenditures associated with such meetings is estimated to be not significant.
- Any costs incurred by the Commissioners of the DOE and the DCS to meet the reporting requirements will not be significant and can be accommodated within existing resources.
- Any increase in expenditures to the Committee to compile and submit the annual report will be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

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



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/vlh