

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6419

BILL NUMBER: HB 1197

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 15, 2005

BILL AMENDED: Feb 8, 2005

SUBJECT: Adoption and Child Protection Review Boards.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Thompson

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. C. Lawson

BILL STATUS: As Passed - House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows a court to form an adoption review board that may review agency reports regarding adoptions and make recommendations to the court. The bill allows a juvenile court to form a child protection services review board that may review the removal of a child from the child's family and make recommendations to the court.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: (Revised) This bill allows a court to establish an adoption review board to assist in reviewing agency reports regarding potential adoptions facilitated through non-private, licensed child placing agency's. The bill also allows a court to establish a child protection services review board, which would review agency reports regarding the removal of a child from the child's family if (1) the child was not removed because a family member committed or was alleged to have committed a criminal act, and (2) it has been more than 60 days since the child was removed from the family. Board members serve voluntarily and may not receive a per diem or reimbursement for their expenses. The recommendations of the review board are only advisory and are not binding in any court.

A board may review an agency report if (1) the court assigns the case, and (2) a petitioner petitions the court to do so. Petitioners may be either an individual petitioning the court for adoption or a parent of a child removed by Child Protective Services. The bill requires the court to impose a fee of \$100 upon petitioners. If petitions are filed, local governments would receive revenue from the fee. The fees will be deposited monthly into the county general fund. Revenues are undeterminable and will be dependent on the number of individuals who petition the court.

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Circuit Courts.

Information Sources:

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