

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6512
BILL NUMBER: SB 585

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 12, 2005
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Homosexuals as Foster or Adoptive Parents.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Waterman
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill prohibits a homosexual from being a foster parent or adopting.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: To the extent that a homosexual person would become an adoptive parent, the state would be responsible for the cost to maintain a child, that would have been adopted, in the child welfare system for a longer period of time. In CY 2003, the average cost for a Child in Need of Services (CHINS) was \$11,953. Increases in expenditures for the state are dependent on the number of children that would have been adopted and the amount of additional time that they remain in the child welfare system.

To the extent that a homosexual person would become a foster parent, the state would need to find an alternative foster home placement. Foster home placements are funded through the county.

FSSA does not currently know how many homosexuals have adopted children or are licensed as foster parents in Indiana because this information is not currently requested or recorded.

Background Information: FSSA reports that in FY 2004, 1,043 children were adopted through FSSA.

Three states, Florida, Mississippi and Oklahoma, have similar laws to the proposed legislation. None of the states have studied whether these provisions have an effect on the placement of children.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: See *Explanation of State Expenditures*.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Family and Social Services Administration.

Local Agencies Affected: Local Offices of Family and Children.

Information Sources: www.gaylawnet.com.

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