



[SF 2257](#) – Juvenile Justice (LSB5240SV)
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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description & Background

[Senate File 2257](#) proposes technical and substantive changes to implement the federal Family First Prevention Services Act ([Family First](#)). Family First was signed into law in February 2018. Family First provides directives on services eligible for Title IV-E reimbursement by redirecting funding historically used to support foster care placements into preventative measures. The Bill is in 13 divisions. As only Division IX and Division X have appreciable fiscal impacts, this **Fiscal Note** will focus only on those divisions. All provisions discussed take effect July 1, 2023.

Division IX — Shelter and Detention Homes

Description

The Bill transfers the administration and oversight of the Juvenile Detention Home Fund from the Department of Human Services (DHS) to the Department of Human Rights (DHR) beginning July 2023 (FY 2024).

Assumptions

The ongoing duties assumed by the DHR will include adopting rules and standards for the administration of detention homes, reviewing operating costs for each detention home, administrating the payment of claims to the detention homes, and ensuring compliance with rules and standards.

Fiscal Impact

The DHR reports that the administration of the Juvenile Detention Home Fund would require the addition of 0.25 full-time equivalent (FTE) position. The DHR reports this would require approximately \$30,000 to provide the salary and benefits for the additional 0.25 FTE position as this cost is not currently calculated into the agency's budget and the agency does not anticipate being able to absorb the additional cost into its existing budget.

Division X, Section 68 — Decategorization Carryover Funding

Description

The Bill extends the period for which moneys designated for the decategorization services funding pool may not revert to Medicaid, but must remain available for child welfare expenditures, from two years to three years.

Assumptions

If the carryover period is extended from two years to three years, there may eventually be no unencumbered or unobligated funds to revert. However, the DHS is unable to definitively predict at what point in the future this would occur. The DHS does not factor in decategorization carryover reversions when projecting the Medicaid budget in or beyond State fiscal year (SFY) 2022.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of this extension cannot be determined at this time. While the reversion is expected to cease at some point in the future, the DHS is unable to predict when that would occur. Reversion amounts in SFY 2019, SFY 2020, and SFY 2021 were \$907,000, \$1.0 million, and \$222,000 respectively.

Division X, Section 69 — Early Intervention Programs

Description

The Bill directs the Juvenile Court Services (JCS) to develop or expand the following services if it receives a specific appropriation to do so:

- Life and interpersonal skills training programs for adjudicated delinquent youth who pose a low or moderate risk to the community.
- School-based programming addressing truancy and school behavioral problem for youth ages 12 through 17.
- Juvenile tracking and supervision for adjudicated youth at risk for placement who have been released from resident facilities.
- Supervised community treatment for adjudicated delinquent youth who constitute a moderate risk to the community.

Assumptions

The Bill does not require the JCS to implement any additional programs unless a specific appropriation is made by the General Assembly. The Bill does not include an appropriation for the enumerated initiatives. Therefore, the Bill does not have an inherent fiscal impact on the JCS as written, but if the enumerated initiatives are funded, the following fiscal impact analysis details the JCS's anticipated needs to implement the initiatives. The JCS also assumes that if the initiatives are funded, they will be expected to be operational at the beginning of that fiscal year. Implementing and establishing the policies and personnel required to administer the program will require 50.0% of the annual ongoing costs in the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the program would become active.

Fiscal Impact

The JCS reports that a total of 3.5 FTE positions would be required to implement the four initiatives enumerated in the Bill. Table 1 below outlines the positions, FTE amounts, and costs associated with the 3.5 FTE positions needed.

Table 1 — JCS FTE Positions and Costs

Position Title	FTE	Initial Year Cost	Annualized Cost
JCS Policy & Liaison Specialist	0.5	\$ 29,129	\$ 58,258
JCS Services Contract Expert	1.0	58,258	116,515
JCS Internal Auditor	1.0	55,507	111,013
JCS Fiscal Manager	1.0	58,258	116,516
Total	3.5	\$ 201,152	\$ 402,302

In addition to the personnel costs, the JCS reports an additional need of \$30,000 for contract software licensing and \$40,000 to contract with the State Attorney General to review contracts. This results in a total annual cost of approximately \$472,000.

Sources

Department of Human Rights
Department of Human Services
Department of Inspections and Appeals
Office of the State Public Defender
Judicial Branch
Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division, Department of Human Rights
Department of Public Safety

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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