

MAR 5 2004
Place On Calendar

HOUSE FILE 2462
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2203)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act directing the department of human services to implement
2 child welfare diversion and mediation pilot projects.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2462

HOUSE FILE 2462

H-8230

1 Amend House File 2462 as follows:
2 1. Page 1, line 2, by striking the word "five"
3 and inserting the following: "one".

By HEATON of Henry

H-8230 FILED MARCH 11, 2004

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1 Section 1. CHILD WELFARE MEDIATION PILOT PROJECTS. The
2 department of human services shall implement five or more
3 child welfare diversion and mediation pilot projects through
4 the offices of the county attorney. The projects shall be
5 implemented in separate counties commencing during the fiscal
6 year beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005. The
7 purposes of the projects are to divert selected child abuse
8 and neglect cases that may otherwise result in a child in need
9 of assistance adjudication, improve permanency for children,
10 promote family unification, and reduce state expenditures
11 associated with adjudication of child protection cases.
12 Selection of children and families for participation in a
13 pilot project shall be based upon diversion criteria mutually
14 agreed upon by the department and a pilot project. The
15 department shall be assisted by the pilot projects in
16 collecting data to analyze the effectiveness of the pilot
17 projects and the department shall submit an initial evaluation
18 to the general assembly on or before December 15, 2007. The
19 savings attributable to the pilot projects shall be calculated
20 and may be allocated to the projects as necessary to assist
21 with operating expenses.

22 EXPLANATION

23 This bill directs the department of human services to
24 implement five or more child welfare diversion and mediation
25 pilot projects through the offices of the county attorney.
26 The projects are to be implemented beginning in fiscal year
27 2004-2005 in separate counties. The pilot projects are to
28 fulfill purposes stated in the bill and are to assist the
29 department in data collection to evaluate effectiveness. An
30 initial evaluation is due to the general assembly on or before
31 December 15, 2007. Savings attributed to the pilot projects
32 may be allocated to the projects to assist with operating
33 expenses.

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**Fiscal Services Division
Legislative Services Agency
Fiscal Note**

HF 2462 - CHINA Determination & Mediation (LSB 5234 HV)
Analyst: Lisa Burk (Phone: (515) 281-7942) (lisa.burk@legis.state.ia.us)
Fiscal Note Version - New

Description

House File 2462 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to implement five or more child welfare diversion and mediation projects through the local offices of the county attorney in FY 2005. The projects are to be located in separate counties to promote the use of trained child welfare mediators that will work with key parties in selected cases to achieve resolution as an alternative to formal juvenile court adjudication; improve permanency for children; promote family unification; and reduce State expenditures associated with adjudication of child protection cases.

The Bill also requires the DHS to coordinate with the projects for the collection of data to be used to evaluate the projects' effectiveness. In addition, the DHS is to measure and evaluate any cost savings attributable to the projects that may then be allocated to assist the projects with operating expenses. The DHS is to submit an initial evaluation of the projects to the General Assembly by December 15, 2007.

Assumptions

1. There will be five diversion and mediation pilot projects implemented at an annual estimated cost ranging from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per project for local project coordination and management and to reimburse trained mediators.
2. The DHS will have additional information technology duties ranging from 500 to 1,500 hours at a cost of \$65 per hour associated with these projects. These will include the collection of data from existing systems to assist projects in determining target populations and baseline performance; assisting with tracking and monitoring outcomes for selected cases; tracking cost savings; and working with and educating projects on data collection requirements, as well as maintaining central data tracking supports for each project.

Fiscal Impact

House File 2462 will result in increased General Fund expenditures to the DHS ranging from approximately \$155,000 to \$350,000 in FY 2005.

	FY 2005	
	Low	High
Pilot Projects	\$ 125,000	\$ 250,000
Information Tecnology - DHS	30,000	100,000
Total	\$ 155,000	\$ 350,000

House File 2462 may also have potential long-term savings to the Judicial Branch; however, due to insufficient information, the amount of savings cannot be determined.

Sources

Department of Human Services
Iowa County Attorneys Association
Judicial Branch

Dennis C Prouty

March 9, 2004

The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Fiscal Services Division, Legislative Services Agency to members of the Legislature upon request.

HOUSE FILE 2462
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2203)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 15, 2004)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
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A BILL FOR

1 An Act directing the department of human services to implement
2 child welfare diversion and mediation pilot projects.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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House Amendments _____

1 Section 1. CHILD WELFARE MEDIATION PILOT PROJECTS. The
2 department of human services shall implement one or more child
3 welfare diversion and mediation pilot projects through the
4 offices of the county attorney. The projects shall be
5 implemented in separate counties commencing during the fiscal
6 year beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005. The
7 purposes of the projects are to divert selected child abuse
8 and neglect cases that may otherwise result in a child in need
9 of assistance adjudication, improve permanency for children,
10 promote family unification, and reduce state expenditures
11 associated with adjudication of child protection cases.
12 Selection of children and families for participation in a
13 pilot project shall be based upon diversion criteria mutually
14 agreed upon by the department and a pilot project. The
15 department shall be assisted by the pilot projects in
16 collecting data to analyze the effectiveness of the pilot
17 projects and the department shall submit an initial evaluation
18 to the general assembly on or before December 15, 2007. The
19 savings attributable to the pilot projects shall be calculated
20 and may be allocated to the projects as necessary to assist
21 with operating expenses.

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S-5250

1 Amend House File 2462, as amended, passed, and
2 reprinted by the House, as follows:

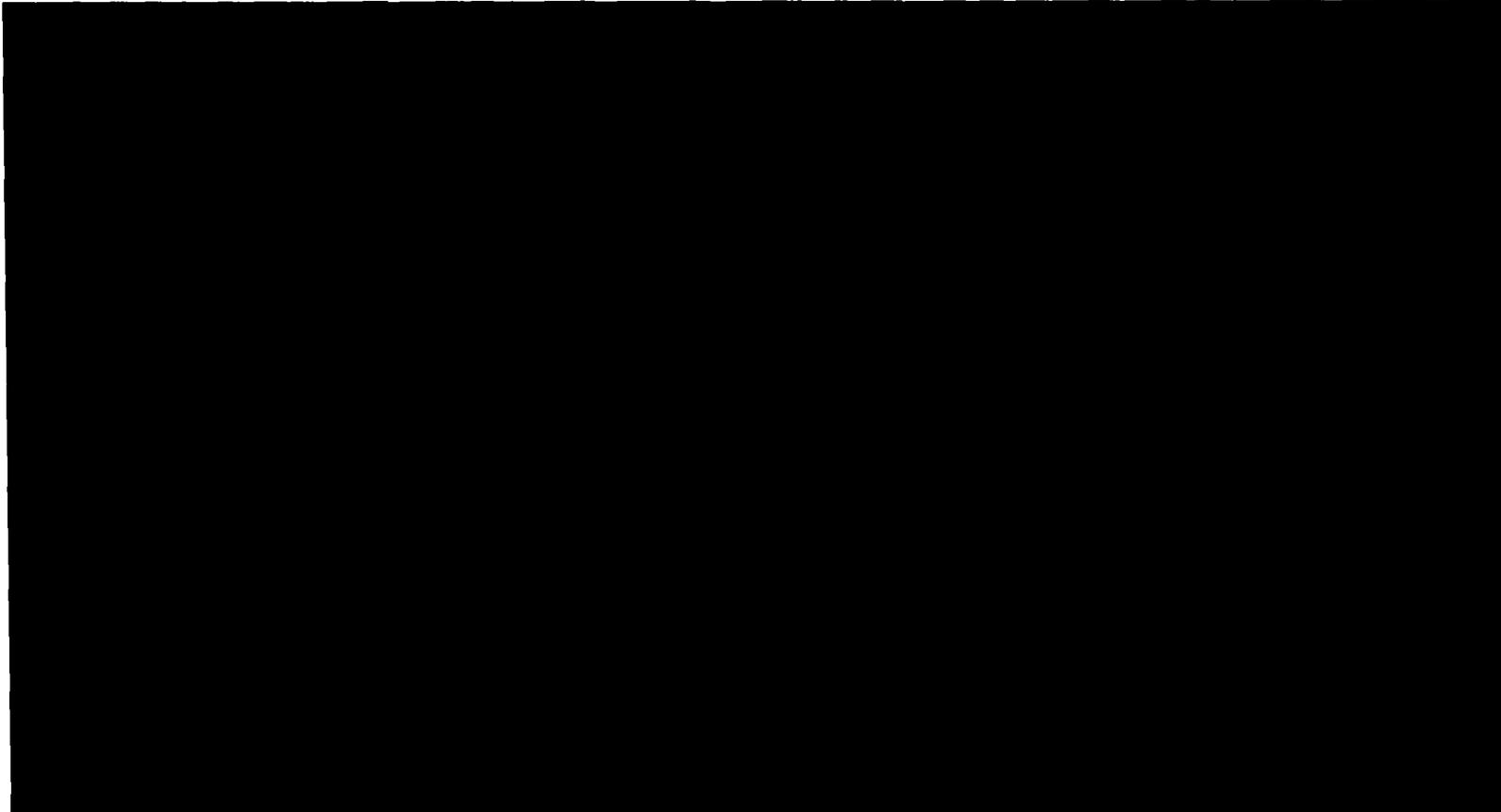
3 1. Page 1, by inserting after line 21 the
4 following:

5 "Sec. ____ . CHILD IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE DIVERSION
6 PILOT PROJECT. The department of human services shall
7 implement a child in need of assistance diversion
8 pilot project in at least twelve counties, involving
9 equal proportions of small, medium, and large
10 counties. The purposes of the project are to divert
11 selected child abuse and neglect cases that may
12 otherwise result in a child in need of assistance
13 adjudication, improve permanency for children, promote
14 family unification, and reduce state expenditures
15 associated with adjudication of child in need of
16 assistance cases. Under the pilot project, unless the
17 department determines that the pilot project approach
18 would not be in the child's best interest, prior to a
19 petition for a child's removal being filed, the
20 department shall conduct a full case staffing for the
21 child's case. The staffing participants shall include
22 but are not limited to relevant treatment providers,
23 the child's parent or guardian, and other persons
24 involved with the child. The department shall report
25 to the governor and the general assembly regarding the
26 effectiveness of the pilot project. An interim report
27 shall be submitted by December 15, 2005, and a final
28 report by December 15, 2006."

29 2. By renumbering as necessary.

By KEITH A. KREIMAN

S-5250 FILED APRIL 1, 2004



HOUSE FILE 2462**S-5273**

1 Amend House File 2462, as amended, passed, and
2 reprinted by the House, as follows:

3 1. Page 1, by inserting after line 21 the
4 following:

5 "Sec. ____ . CHILD IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE FAMILY CASE
6 STAFFING PILOT PROJECT. The department of human
7 services shall implement a child in need of assistance
8 family case staffing pilot project in at least two
9 counties. Under the pilot project, unless the
10 department determines that the pilot project approach
11 would not be in the child's best interest, prior to a
12 child in need of assistance petition being filed, the
13 department shall conduct a full case staffing for the
14 child's case. The staffing participants shall include
15 but are not limited to relevant treatment providers,
16 the child's parents or guardians, and other persons
17 involved with the child. The purposes of the pilot
18 project are to divert selected child abuse and neglect
19 cases that may otherwise result in a child in need of
20 assistance adjudication, improve permanency for
21 children, promote family unification, and reduce state
22 expenditures associated with adjudication of child in
23 need of assistance cases."

24 2. By renumbering as necessary.

By KEITH A. KREIMAN

S-5273 FILED APRIL 5, 2004

ADOPTED

**SENATE AMENDMENT TO
HOUSE FILE 2462**

H-8395

1 Amend House File 2462, as amended, passed, and
2 reprinted by the House, as follows:

3 1. Page 1, by inserting after line 21 the
4 following:

5 "Sec. ____ CHILD IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE FAMILY CASE
6 STAFFING PILOT PROJECT. The department of human
7 services shall implement a child in need of assistance
8 family case staffing pilot project in at least two
9 counties. Under the pilot project, unless the
10 department determines that the pilot project approach
11 would not be in the child's best interest, prior to a
12 child in need of assistance petition being filed, the
13 department shall conduct a full case staffing for the
14 child's case. The staffing participants shall include
15 but are not limited to relevant treatment providers,
16 the child's parents or guardians, and other persons
17 involved with the child. The purposes of the pilot
18 project are to divert selected child abuse and neglect
19 cases that may otherwise result in a child in need of
20 assistance adjudication, improve permanency for
21 children, promote family unification, and reduce state
22 expenditures associated with adjudication of child in
23 need of assistance cases."

24 2. By renumbering as necessary.

RECEIVED FROM THE SENATE

H-8395 FILED APRIL 6, 2004

HOUSE FILE 2462

AN ACT

DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO IMPLEMENT CHILD WELFARE DIVERSION AND MEDIATION PILOT PROJECTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. CHILD WELFARE MEDIATION PILOT PROJECTS. The department of human services shall implement one or more child welfare diversion and mediation pilot projects through the offices of the county attorney. The projects shall be implemented in separate counties commencing during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005. The purposes of the projects are to divert selected child abuse and neglect cases that may otherwise result in a child in need of assistance adjudication, improve permanency for children, promote family unification, and reduce state expenditures associated with adjudication of child protection cases. Selection of children and families for participation in a pilot project shall be based upon diversion criteria mutually agreed upon by the department and a pilot project. The department shall be assisted by the pilot projects in collecting data to analyze the effectiveness of the pilot projects and the department shall submit an initial evaluation to the general assembly on or before December 15, 2007. The savings attributable to the pilot projects shall be calculated and may be allocated to the projects as necessary to assist with operating expenses.

Sec. 2. CHILD IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE FAMILY CASE STAFFING PILOT PROJECT. The department of human services shall implement a child in need of assistance family case staffing pilot project in at least two counties. Under the pilot project, unless the department determines that the pilot project approach would not be in the child's best interest,

prior to a child in need of assistance petition being filed, the department shall conduct a full case staffing for the child's case. The staffing participants shall include but are not limited to relevant treatment providers, the child's parents or guardians, and other persons involved with the child. The purposes of the pilot project are to divert selected child abuse and neglect cases that may otherwise result in a child in need of assistance adjudication, improve permanency for children, promote family unification, and reduce state expenditures associated with adjudication of child in need of assistance cases.

CHRISTOPHER C. RANTS
Speaker of the House

JEFFREY M. LAMBERTI
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 2462, Eightieth General Assembly.

MARGARET THOMSON
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved _____, 2004

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Governor