FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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Measure Description:

Directs Department of Human Services to develop and implement training and continuing education curriculum for department caseworkers that informs and instructs caseworkers on their roles in juvenile dependency proceedings.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Justice (DOJ)

Analysis:

House Bill 2500 with the - 3 amendment requires the Department of Human Services (DHS), in consultation with the Department of Justice (DOJ) to develop and implement training and continuing education curriculum for employees who work as DHS caseworkers. The curriculum must instruct caseworkers about their roles in juvenile dependency proceedings. Caseworkers must participate in this training at least once every four years.

Department of Human Services (DHS)

Based on the continuing education at least every four years requirement, DHS reports that the cost of ensuring the training requirements of this bill will be minimal. At present, DHS has curriculum in place through an intergovernmental agreement with Portland State University child welfare partnership. Plans are underway for implementing an increased level of this training July 1, 2017.

Department of Justice (DOJ)

DOJ reports that its Child Advocacy Section staff will absorb the extra work required to consult with DHS and train caseworkers as part of its course of business.