

**Department of Planning and Budget**  
**2003 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number** SB1011

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed

**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron**        Howell

**3. Committee**    Courts of Justice

**4. Title**            Mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect.

**5. Summary/Purpose:** This bill requires any regular minister, priest, rabbi, or accredited practitioner, including a duly accredited Christian Science practitioner, to report suspected child abuse or neglect to a local department of social services or the Department of Social Services' toll-free child abuse and neglect hotline. The bill exempts from the mandatory reporting requirement information required by the doctrine of the religious organization or denomination to be kept in a confidential manner. However, the privilege accorded such confidential communications shall not apply if the minister, priest, rabbi, or accredited practitioner, including a duly accredited Christian Science practitioner, also acquires the information from a source other than the confidential communication.

**6. No Fiscal Impact**

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No

**8. Fiscal implications:** None

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:**    None

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No

**11. Other comments:** None

**Date:** 01/13/03/kwm

**Document:** G:\2003FiscalYear\FIS\SB1011.Doc

cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources