

Department of Planning and Budget

2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 2500

House of Origin	___	Introduced	___	Substitute	___	Engrossed
Second House	___	In Committee	___	Substitute	___	Enrolled

2. Patron: Ward, Jeion A.

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: 'A Place of My Own' Program; established

- 5. Summary:** The bill, as amended, requires the Department of Social Services to identify and work together with faith-based, volunteer, private, and community-based organizations to develop and implement the "A Place of My Own" program. This program would seek and accept donations and coordinate the distribution of luggage for children in foster care. This bill provides that the department may accept grants, gifts, donations, and bequests to support the activities of the Program. The bill also creates a special non-reverting fund on the books of the Comptroller. This fund, called "A Place of My Own" would consist of grants, donations and bequests from public and private sources. Such moneys would be deposited into the state treasury to the credit of the fund and would be used solely to support the activities of the program. This fund would be administered by the department.

The bill also contains enactment clauses stipulating that it would not become effective unless general fund dollars are appropriated by the 2010 Session of the General Assembly. Moreover, the bill's provisions would expire on June 30, 2012, if no moneys have been deposited into the A Place of My Own Program Fund.

6. Fiscal impact estimates are final.

Expenditure Impact*:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2009	-	-	-
2010	\$94,859	0.6	General
	\$63,240	0.4	Nongeneral
2011	\$55,762	0.6	General
	\$37,174	0.4	Nongeneral
2012	\$55,762	0.6	General
	\$37,174	0.4	Nongeneral
2013	\$55,762	0.6	General
	\$37,174	0.4	Nongeneral
2014	\$55,762	0.6	General
	\$37,174	0.4	Nongeneral
2015	\$55,762	0.6	General
	\$37,174	0.4	Nongeneral

*The expenditure estimates do not account for the increased workload that could be experienced in local departments of social services (see item 8)

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 337.

- 8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill will require \$158,099 (\$94,859 GF) the first year and \$92,936 (\$55,762 GF) each year thereafter to develop the “A Place of My Own” program. It is assumed that the Department of Social Services would require a classified position in the central office (with an estimated salary of \$62,511) to develop and implement the program. Specifically, this position would be charged with administrative duties such as: writing collection/distribution procedures; applying for grants; managing the fund and monitoring the program’s outcomes. It is further assumed that for the program to be effective, it would be necessary for the department to print and distribute outreach material (such as brochures) each year. The department estimates that approximately 100,000 brochures (at a cost of \$0.60 per brochure, or \$60,000) would be needed to canvass the state. It is also unclear as to whether there would need to be an independent audit of this fund; should that be the case, the estimated cost would increase.

No specific local costs can be identified at this time; however, once the program is implemented it is estimated that local staff time and effort will be required to work with various local non-profit organizations. In addition, there may be some cost associated with the storage of donated and purchased luggage. However, it is uncertain as to whether adequate storage would be available at local offices or if the local offices would need to rent a storage facility.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department of Social Services
Local departments of social services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 3/10/2009

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