

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 933

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Watts, Vivian E.

3. Committee: Courts of Justice

4. Title: Child support; update to guidelines

5. Summary: The proposed legislation updates child support guidelines. The new guidelines specify monthly child support obligation amounts for obligors who earn a gross monthly income of up to \$35,000, with an added additional amount for gross income above \$35,000. The bill provides that the court may set an obligation below the presumptive statutory minimum for obligors who earn equal to or less than 150 percent of the federal poverty level, provided that doing so does not create or reduce a support obligation to an amount which seriously impairs the custodial parent's ability to maintain minimal adequate housing and provide other basic necessities for the child. The bill also removes the \$250 floor on reasonable and necessary unreimbursed medical or dental expenses that are required to be paid by each parent in proportion to their gross incomes.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Minimal Fiscal Impact: See Item 8

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Social Services maintains that the guideline changes contained in the legislation will not have a significant impact on division workload or retained revenues. Therefore, the bill will not necessitate additional staffing. However, it is estimated that changes will need to be made to the child support information technology systems at a cost of approximately \$32,000, two-thirds of which (\$21,333) would be supported with federal funds. It is assumed that the state share of this cost can be absorbed with the existing agency appropriation.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Social Services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 1/10/14