

## **Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB 349

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

**2. Patron:** McWaters, Jeffrey L.

**3. Committee:** Rehabilitation and Social Services

**4. Title:** Child-placing agency; conscience clause

**5. Summary:** The proposed legislation stipulates that private child-placing agencies are not required to consider or consent to any placement of a child for foster care or adoption if such placement would conflict with the religious tenets of an agency's sponsor or any organization or institution with which the agency is associated or affiliated. The bill also provides that such refusal would not form the basis of any claim for damages.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**7. No Fiscal Impact**

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The provisions of this bill would only affect private child placing agencies and their placement of children for foster care or adoption. It is not expected to impact existing staff workloads in the Department of Social Services or require a change to current regulations.

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

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** This bill is a companion to HB 189.

**Date:** 1/16/12

**Document:** G:\2012 Fiscal Year\Efis\SB349.doc