

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 2061

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Watts, Vivian E.

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title: Adult protective services; statistics regarding reports of adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation

5. Summary: The proposed legislation requires the Department of Social Services (the Department) to (i) keep records of the number of reports filed alleging suspected adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation and the disposition of such reports and (ii) annually publish non-identifying statistics regarding such information. The bill also requires the Department to annually disseminate to the Department of Health and all local boards of social services and area agencies on aging a report of such information, categorized by the planning district in which the report was filed; the facility in which the abused, neglected, or exploited adult resided at the time of the abuse, neglect, or exploitation, if applicable; and the names of individuals who were the subject of criminal charges as a result of the investigation.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary

Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2017	-	-
2018	\$81,200	General
2019	\$31,200	General
2020	\$31,200	General
2021	\$31,200	General
2022	\$31,200	General
2023	\$31,200	General

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation proposes that the Department of Social Services (DSS) keep records of the numbers of reports filed for specific types of adult oriented cases and the disposition of these reports and annually publish non-identifying statistics based upon this information. This information is already collected by local department of social service offices and is published by the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). Therefore, no significant fiscal impact is expected with implementing these provisions of the bill.

However, the further requirements to disseminate this information categorized by planning district and facility of residence, along with the names of those charged will require additional resources to accomplish. The information systems used by local adult protective services workers do not currently maintain or report sufficient data to meet the requirements of this bill. DARS expects that it would have to modify its current system (approximately \$50,000) to include information related to districts, facilities and names as well as create a secure portal for the required external entities. While district and facility information is available, data about criminal charges would be more difficult to collect as APS workers do not typically track criminal cases to their conclusion. Further, DARS reports that many times a case is closed by the local office by the time a perpetrator is charged and goes to court. Therefore, it is assumed that a manual effort would be required to follow cases through after APS involvement and update the system with the required names. DARS maintains that a part-time position (\$31,200) would be required to gather this data. This position also be charged with ensuring all of the required data is complete, disseminate data manually (if necessary) and facilitate portal access.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

Department of Social Services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: Yes. A technical amendment is needed for this bill as the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) has responsibility for adult protective services, not the Department of Social Services. As such DARS would be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this bill.

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 1/19/17