Department of Planning and Budget
2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB1139

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

2. **Patron:** Favola

3. **Committee:** Courts of Justice

4. **Title:** Post-adoption contact and communication agreements.

5. **Summary:** Requires the court to consider the appropriateness of a written post-adoption contact and communication agreement entered into in any case in which a child has been placed in foster care as a result of court commitment, an entrustment agreement or other voluntary relinquishment by the parent or parents, or in cases in which there is voluntary consent to the adoption of the child at a permanency planning hearing. Under current law, such consideration is discretionary. The bill further requires, for agency adoptions, the agency authorized to place the child for adoption to inform the birth and adoptive parents of a child that they may enter into a written post-adoption contract and communication agreement. The bill further requires a circuit court to approve a post-adoption contact and communication agreement authorized or entered into unless certain determinations are made or certain factors are present. Currently, such approval is discretionary and requires both that certain factors be present and for certain determinations to be made by the court in order for such agreement to be approved.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary**: No.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** None.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** This bill does not have a fiscal impact. Guidance and training for local department of social services and licensed child placing agency staff regarding the use of a written post-adoption contract and communication agreement will need to be updated to reflect the new requirement, but this can be absorbed within the Department's current appropriation.

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.