

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1768-ER

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

2. Patron: Head

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Child-protective services; investigations; interview by child advocacy center; time limits.

5. Summary: Allows local departments of social services (local department) to facilitate an interview of a child with a recognized child advocacy center (CAC) located in another jurisdiction, if a local multidisciplinary team has determined that an interview with a CAC within the jurisdiction cannot be completed within 14 days.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. No fiscal impact. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation, as amended, allows a local department of social services (LDSS) facilitate an interview of a child by a child advocacy center (CAC) located in another jurisdiction if an interview at a CAC within the jurisdiction cannot be completed within 14 days. Interviews conducted at a CAC reduce the number of times a child victim must be interviewed and can increase the successful prosecution of child maltreatment cases. Children who are interviewed at a CAC describe themselves as being “not at all” or “not very” scared during the interview when compared to children who are interviewed at alternate locations.

According to the Department of Social Services, this legislation, as amended, codifies current best practice and allows a local department of social services to use a CAC outside of its jurisdiction, instead of waiting more than 14 days for an interview at the CAC within its jurisdiction.

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.