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BY: Delegates Boteler and Eckardt

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL NO. 150, AS AMENDED

(First Reading File Bill - Committee Reprint)

On pages 234 and 235, in Committee Amendment No. 289, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 3 on page 234 through line 29 on page 235, inclusive, and substitute:

"SECTION 41. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on June 15, 2005 the Governor shall abolish 21 unspecified vacant positions from this budget and the amounts listed below, being funds associated with these positions, shall be restricted and may be used only to increase the State subsidy for employee and retiree health insurance:

\$1,643,174 general funds

\$ 154,589 special funds

\$ 484,677 federal funds".

Explanation: Amendment 289 deleted 21 specific positions either in the Office for Children, Youth, and Families, or in the Departments of Human Resources and Juvenile Services, which provide positions for the Office. The amendment also restricted a total of \$1.6 million in general funds, \$0.1 million in special funds, and \$0.5 million in federal funds associated with those positions to only be used to increase the State subsidy for employee and retiree health insurance. This amendment deletes the direction to abolish 21 specific positions and substitutes the deletion of 21 unspecified vacant positions from across the State budget. The amount of funding restricted for health insurance is unchanged, rendering this amendment neutral with respect to its impact on the budget.