

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 1017

(Senator Kasemeyer, *et al.*)

Budget and Taxation

Child Welfare Training Act of 2010

This bill requires the Department of Human Resources (DHR) to identify all State funds that are used for the training of the child welfare workforce, in the public and private sector, in order to receive the maximum amount of federal matching funds available.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2010.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: DHR can handle the bill's requirements using existing resources. Potential minimal increase in federal matching funds to the extent that additional training funds are identified.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 was enacted to address problems in the foster care system and to encourage states to promote permanency in out-of-home placements. The Act also amended Title IV-E of the Social Security Act to provide specified federal matching funds to states, including reimbursing states for 75% of costs associated with the short-term training of current or prospective foster or adoptive parents and the members of the staff of State-licensed or State-approved child care institutions providing care to foster and adopted children. Federal law was amended in 2008 to authorize federal matching funds for costs

associated with additional trainees, including members of the staff of abuse and neglect courts, guardian *ad litem*s, and other members of licensed or approved child welfare agencies providing services to children receiving assistance under title IV-E. Federal matching funds for these new trainees is available at 65% in fiscal 2011, 70% in fiscal 2012, and 75% annually beginning in fiscal 2013.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1417 (Delegate Jones, *et al.*) - Appropriations.

Information Source(s): Department of Human Resources, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 23, 2010
mpc/hlb

Analysis by: Jennifer K. Botts

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510