

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2012 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 264

(Chair, Judiciary Committee)(By Request - Departmental  
- Human Resources)

Judiciary

Judicial Proceedings

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**State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect - Transfer to Department of Human Resources**

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This departmental bill transfers the State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (SCCAN) to the Department of Human Resources (DHR) for budgetary and administrative purposes. The bill also alters, from three to one, the number of required standing committees for the council and repeals the duties of the eliminated standing committees.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. Because DHR already provides administrative and budgetary support to SCCAN, this bill only codifies the current arrangement. Altering the number and duties of standing committees will not materially impact State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** DHR has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** Under statutory provisions, SCCAN is part of the Office for Children, Youth and Families (OCYF) for budgetary and administrative purposes. However, OCYF terminated in 2005 and subsequently became part of the Governor's Office for Children in 2006. Since that time, DHR has provided support for SCCAN.

SCCAN is responsible for evaluating the extent to which State and local agencies are effectively discharging their child protection responsibilities in accordance with: (1) the State plan required by the federal government; (2) the child protection standards set forth in State and federal law; and (3) any other criteria it considers important to ensure the protection of children. SCCAN also reviews the extent to which the State child protective services system is coordinated with the foster care and adoption program established under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act and conducts reviews of child fatality and near fatality reports. SCCAN is required to examine the policies and procedures of State and local agencies and specific cases that it considers necessary to perform its duties.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** HB 1692 of 2006, a similar bill, did not receive a hearing.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Governor's Office for Children, Department of Human Resources, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 7, 2012  
ncs/mwc

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## ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect – Transfer to Department of Human Resources

BILL NUMBER: HB 264

PREPARED BY: Department of Human Resources

### PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

### PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

The proposed legislation will have no impact on small business in Maryland.