

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2023-24		FY 2024-25	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See below		See below	

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

This bill states legislative intent to appropriate an additional \$7.5 million in General Funds in FY24 and \$7.5 million in General Funds in FY25 for Program 354 Child Welfare Aid administered by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for activities of child advocacy centers pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 28-728 to 28-730.

Additionally, the bill indicates legislative intent to appropriate an additional \$500,000 in General Funds in FY24 for Program 354 Child Welfare Aid for coordination activities of the state chapter of child advocacy centers as defined in federal law 34 U.S. Code § 20302 as such section existed January 1, 2023. The bill states it is the intent of the legislature to continue such appropriations in future years.

DHHS indicates a need to delayed implementation on or past July of 2024 to allow time to make necessary contract updates. The bill adds additional funding but does not include any additional programmatic requirements. Currently, seven child advocacy centers receive funding from CFS via an appropriation to Program 354 well as the Nebraska Alliance of Child Advocacy Centers. In 2022-2023, this included a total of \$3,012,187. LB 112 would increase the funding by \$7,500,000 in General Funds to a total of \$10,512,187 (248% increase in funding). CFS would need to collaborate with the CACs on what services and programming could be enhanced, implemented, or created in conjunction with the additional funding that would be allocated with LB 112.

DHHS indicates the need to add additional staff positions to be able to implement the necessary agreements, create programming, and monitor activities and funding. DHHS would need a Program Specialist starting in July 2023 and a Federal Aid Administrator starting in October 2023. The cost of the two FTEs salary and benefits would be \$107,284 in FY24 and \$128,376 in FY25. There will be an increase in other areas of DHHS which the agency would be able to absorb.

Estimates of total costs pursuant to LB 112 are \$8,107,284 in FY24 and \$8,128,376 in FY25.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE				
LB:	112	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services	
REVIEWED BY:	Ann Linneman	DATE:	3-16-2023	PHONE: (402) 471-4180
COMMENTS: The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' analysis and estimate of fiscal impact to the department appears reasonable.				
<u>Technical Note:</u> The current appropriation language is not sufficient to create an appropriation. The fiscal impact assessment assumes an accompanying A-bill articulating appropriation in accordance with §49-804.				

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

State Agency or Political Subdivision Name:(2) Department of Health and Human Services

Prepared by: (3) John Meals

Date Prepared 1-9-2023

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	<u>FY 2023-2024</u>		<u>FY 2024-2025</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	\$8,128,503		\$8,153,766	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$8,128,503		\$8,153,766	

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

LB 112 increases appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for Child Advocacy Centers (CACs). DHHS would need a delayed implementation on or past July of 2024 to allow time to make the necessary changes. If passed, current contracts will continue with additional funds being added to the agreements. This will require additional review time for Procurement and Legal.

The appropriation would create an additional \$500,000 for the coordination of activities of the state chapter of CACs and an additional \$7,500,000 for the activities of the CACs in FY23 and would continue in future years. This is a significant addition of funding without insight into the details of the spending. Currently, seven child advocacy centers receive funding from CFS as well as the Nebraska Alliance of Child Advocacy Centers. In 2022-2023, this included a total of \$3,012,187. LB 112 would increase the funding by \$7,500,000 in General Funds to a total of \$10,512,187 (248% increase in funding).

The amounts listed below are for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 awards:

1. Bridge of Hope CAC (North Platte): \$192,222.00 with 1 satellite office.
2. Capstone CAC (Gering): \$334,393.00 with 3 satellite offices.
3. First Light CAC (Grand Island): \$134,867.00 with no satellite offices.
4. Family Advocacy CAC (Kearney) \$319,580.00 2 satellite offices.
5. Lincoln Lancaster CAC: \$560,293.00 with 2 satellite offices.
6. Northeast Nebraska CAC (Norfolk): 296,482.00 with 1 satellite office.
7. Project Harmony CAC and One Stop (Omaha): \$919,036.00
8. Nebraska Alliance for Child Advocacy Centers: \$255,314.00

The Legislature has already issued an appropriation to DHHS for Program No. 354, Child Welfare Aid, for activities of CACs pursuant to sections 28-728 to 28-730. LB112 allocates additional funding for the CACs but does not increase program or other requirements associated with the additional funding. CFS would need to collaborate with the CACs on what services and programming could be enhanced, implemented, or created in conjunction with the additional funding that would be allocated with LB 112.

Due to the amount of funding that is appropriated in LB 112, DHHS would need to add additional staff positions to be able to implement the necessary agreements, create programming, and monitor activities and funding. DHHS would need 1 additional Program Specialist and 1 additional Federal Aid Administrator to carry out the duties. Additionally, there will be an increase in hours for the following staff: Legal Staff, Administrative Staff, Billing and Payment Team, Data/CQI Staff. These staff would utilize state general funds. DHHS will be able to absorb administrative support duties for the additional funding.

PERSONAL SERVICES:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2023-2024	2024-2025
	23-24	24-25	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
K73210 - DHHS Program Specialist	1.00	1.00	\$46,182	\$48,491
R19612 - Federal Aid Administrator II	0.75	1.00	\$33,287	\$46,602

Benefits.....			\$27,815	\$33,283
Operating.....			\$21,219	\$25,390
Travel.....				
Capital Outlay.....				
Aid.....			\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000
Capital Improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			\$8,128,503	\$8,153,766