

FISCAL NOTE
 LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *				
	FY 2007-08		FY 2008-09	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See below			

*Does not include any impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

This bill creates the Safe Haven Act. The bill allows a newborn infant 30 days or younger to be placed in a designated facility. The placement would not constitute an automatic termination of parental rights but would constitute abandonment no less than 90 days after the infant has been placed. Placement shall not constitute a finding of abuse or neglect, if child abuse is not suspected. The designated facility shall notify the Department of Health and Human Services for placement of the child. The department is required to develop and implement a public information program to inform the public about the Safe Haven Act. Federal funds should be explored to pay for the public information program. A committee is established to compile a report regarding the Safe Haven Act. The report is due to the legislature on or before January 1, 2010. The Safe Haven Act terminates on September 1, 2011.

The cost of a public information program would be \$28,000. Additionally, if Health and Human Services needs to provide training to those who may receive a child under this act, the training costs would be approximately \$23,440. No additional child welfare costs are assumed in this fiscal note. It is assumed an infant that would be placed under the provisions of this bill very likely would be at risk of entering foster care.

The bill references using funding from the federal Promoting Safe and Stable Facilities Program. Current funding is allocated. The extent to which future funding may be available will need to be explored.