

FISCAL NOTE
 LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *				
	FY 2008-09		FY 2009-10	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	34,724		31,724	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	34,724		31,724	

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

This bill would change the Parenting Act and other domestic relations provisions, and it has the emergency clause.

The Nebraska Supreme Court (Court) estimates the following expenditure impact from this bill:

ITEMS	FY2008-2009	FY2009-2010
	Expenditures	
0.5 FTE Administrative Staff	18,453	18,453
Benefits	11,271	11,271
Operating (postage, phone lines, office supplies, etc.)	2,000	2,000
Capital Outlay (desk, computer)	3,000	0
Total	34,724	31,724

An explanation of the Court's estimated expenditure impact follows:

The Court estimates that they will have 100 reviews of private mediators per year, averaging 10 hours per mediator, for a total of 1,000 hours per year. This would require hiring and equipping a part-time administrative staff position, which is noted in the table above.

The Court states that the bill will expand court referrals to private mediators. The Office of Dispute Resolution under the State Court Administrator's office would probably create and administer such an approval process for private mediators under the Parenting Act. The Court estimates that there are between 50-150 individuals who may immediately desire to become approved. As the law becomes more known, others may apply. This has happened in other states that have mandatory mediation in parenting cases.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) states that there will be no fiscal impact to them that cannot be covered under current operations.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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COMMENTS					
NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT: Agency estimates appear reasonable.					