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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/12/13

SPONSOR Ortiz y Pino LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Expand Children’s Trust Fund Functions SB 297

ANALYST Aledo-Sandoval

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY13	FY14	FY15	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		NFI				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)  
Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 297 amends the Children’s Trust Fund Act to broaden its scope to include advocacy and education about the prevention of child abuse and neglect. The bill also expands the membership of the board of trustees from nine to thirteen, enables the board to fund both projects and programs, and removes language specifying that children’s projects and programs were one-time, short-term demonstration basis. Currently, children’s projects are only funded with income received from investment of the fund; SB 297 adds language to allow the use of federal funds, private donations, bequests, and other public and private grants for children’s projects.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

According to the CYFD, the agency has dedicated a 0.5 FTE to support matters related to the Children’s Trust Fund Act. Any expanded requirements on the CYFD would be absorbed by existing resources.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The CYFD states that there will be increased visibility of the Children’s Trust Fund with the broadening of the fund’s scope to include child abuse prevention advocacy and education. The department also adds increasing the number of board members will strengthen the fund by providing greater input from state residents and help encourage private donations.

The AOC notes that SB 297 moves beyond one-time start-up funding for projects to funding ongoing programs to educate and advocate about the child abuse prevention without requesting additional funds from the general fund. SB 297 provides for additional funding sources for the expanded scope activities.

The AOC adds that more resources to both prevent abuse and treat child abuse victims are likely to provide additional services to families when a legal case is filed which is likely to reduce time to permanency.

MCAS/blm