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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Lord LAST UPDATED _____
ORIGINAL DATE 02/21/2023
SHORT TITLE CYFD Abuse and Neglect Support Services BILL NUMBER House Bill 326
ANALYST Chilton

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY23	FY24		
	\$20,000	Recurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.
*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Children, Youth, and Families Department (CYFD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 326

House Bill 326, CYFD Abuse and Neglect Support Services, appropriates \$20 million each year from FY24 to FY26 from the general fund to the Children, Youth, and Families Department for the purpose of funding child abuse and neglect prevention and support services.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect June 16, 2023, (90 days after the Legislature adjourns) if signed into law.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$20 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of each fiscal year shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The bill does not specify which preventive measures or services are to be supported. CYFD,

while expressing concern that it would not be able to pick up the costs of programs begun under this appropriation, if the appropriation were not to be recurring beyond fiscal year 2026, indicates some of the ways in which the funds could be spent:

- Expansion of community-based prevention, intervention, and reunification programs, which provide one-on-one support to families, perhaps by using evidence-based curricula or by lowering caseworkers' caseloads;
- Expansion of family resource centers, community-based resource hubs where families access supports to promote their health and well-being;
- New programs, such as support for families with substance use problems;
- Establishment of a group of peer mentor-counselors specializing in substance use disorders and their effects on families;
- Programs that further the work of the Prevention and Initiatives Bureau and its work in conjunction with the Family Resource Centers mentioned above.

LAC/mg/hg/mg