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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/17/07

SPONSOR King LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 878

SHORT TITLE Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Lucero

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB233  
Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)  
Public Defender Department (PDD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 878 appropriates five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) from the general fund to Children, Youth and Families Department for expenditure in fiscal years 2008 to prevent child abuse and neglect.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of five hundred thousand (\$500,000) contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2008 shall revert to the general fund.

This appropriation is not part of CYFD's request and is not included in the Executive recommendation for CYFD.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The bill provides no information about the specific programs or targets that the appropriation seeks to broaden.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

The bill may assist CYFD in addressing the General Appropriations Act performance measure concerning the “percent of children determined to be maltreated within six months of a prior determination.”

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

If passed, the bill will have a minimal administrative impact on children, youth and families department that the bill does not address.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The bill provides \$500.0 to prevent child abuse and neglect. It is unclear which prevention programs are being supported. There are numerous prevention programs. It is unclear whether the appropriation could be used to support the general operating budget of CYFD’s protective services division

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

Recognition of the need to reduce the risks faced by vulnerable children can be found in current public and private efforts aimed at strengthening families and building capacities and resilience. The Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood initiatives from the Administration for Children and Families are both designed to protect children through approaches that encourage the enrichment of relationships between parents, and between parents and their children. In one-parent households, new initiatives are focusing on increasing access and visitation, developing the nurturing capabilities of non-custodial parents, and improving the relationship between custodial and non-custodial parents. Other important initiatives are focusing on reducing teen pregnancy and out-of-wedlock births, addressing substance use and abuse among parents, improving opportunities for adoption, increasing child support compliance, ensuring safe and adequate child care, promoting safe and stable families, and providing work opportunities for ex-offenders who are parents. Yet, despite the potential long-term benefits of preventing child abuse and neglect, only a small percentage of all resources specifically earmarked for child maltreatment in the United States are actually devoted to prevention.

(Emerging Practices in the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Author(s): Thomas, Leicht, Hughes, Madigan, Dowell Year Published: 2003)

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

Status Quo.