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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Gallegos ORIGINAL DATE 02/02/14
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 236

SHORT TITLE Children's Advocacy Programs SB _____

ANALYST Jorgensen

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
	\$500.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA)

Public Defender Department (PDD)

SUMMARY

House Bill 236 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund to the administrative office of the district attorneys for the purpose of increasing funding for children's advocacy programs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of 2015 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The AODA currently has \$180 thousand in the base budget to provide funding for statewide children's advocacy programs. These funds will be used to supplement current funds for forensic interview networks. These networks are statewide. The networks are multidisciplinary forensic interviews for children witnesses to violent crime or victims of abuse/neglect to reduce trauma on the child due to repeat interviews.

RELATIONSHIP

HB 236 is related to HB 235 which would create the Child Crime Victims Advocacy fund to be funded from a \$2.00 fee on penalty assessment misdemeanors, traffic violations, petty misdemeanors, misdemeanors and felony offenses.

CJ/ds