



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
2009-10 Legislative Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

HOUSE BILL: 2338

PRINTER'S NO: 3593

PRIME SPONSOR: Mundy

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2009/10	FY 2010/11
<b>Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):</b>		
General Fund	\$0	\$0

**OVERVIEW:**

House Bill 2338 creates the Children in Foster Care Act. The bill provides all children in foster care with certain treatment and basic protections as enumerated in the act.

In addition, a public or private agency handling the child's case must provide the foster child with an explanation of the procedures and policies relating to grievances. The Department of Public Welfare (DPW) will develop a model grievance policy and procedures to be used by county and private agencies. A copy of the outlined protections and grievance policy must be provided to the child, child's parents and resource family.

Violations under the act cannot be addressed by private cause of action.

The act shall take effect in 120 days.

**ANALYSIS:**

The Department of Public Welfare does not anticipate any significant costs to the commonwealth as a result of House Bill 2338. The department would incorporate training on the requirements of the legislation as part of its training curriculum.

Minimal costs may be realized at the local level, as agencies would need to allot time to send staff to be trained. The department also notes the possibility that more local agency staff time may need to be devoted to processing grievances submitted by youth, as the youth become more aware of their expanded rights.

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House Appropriations Committee, (D)

**DATE:** May 3, 2010

**General Note and Disclaimer:** *This Fiscal Note was prepared pursuant to House Rule 19(a), and the elements considered and reported above are required by Section 5 of the rule. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*