

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 27

PRINTER'S NO. 1388

AMOUNT

No Significant Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

March 15, 2013

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Mensch

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to AGING AND YOUTH, March 15, 2013
Reported as amended, Sept. 24, 2013
First consideration, Sept. 24, 2013
Second consideration, Sept. 25, 2013
Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, Sept. 25, 2013
Re-reported as committed, Oct. 1, 2013

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 27 amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations) by allowing for the exchange of information in suspected child abuse cases between licensed medical practitioners and county agencies.

The bill requires licensed medical practitioners to provide the county agency with the following information regarding a case of suspected child abuse:

- medical information regarding the child's prior and current health;
- information from a subsequent examination;
- information regarding treatment of the child; and
- relevant medical information regarding any other child in the child's household.

The bill requires the county agency to provide the following information upon request by a licensed medical practitioner:

- information regarding the condition and well-being of the child and the progress and outcome of an investigation;
- protective services records regarding the child and any other child in the household if the information relates to the medical evaluation of the child; and
- the identity of other licensed medical practitioners providing care to the child in order to obtain the child's medical records.

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The bill requires that when beginning an assessment, investigation or services, the county agency must notify the child's primary care provider and any other licensed medical practitioner who is providing ongoing care of the following:

- the reason for the assessment, investigation or provision of protective services to the child; and
- a service plan developed for the child and the child's family.

This act shall take effect on January 1, 2014.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 27 will have no significant fiscal impact to the Commonwealth.