

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. House Bill 2133

PRINTER NO. 3107

AMOUNT

See Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

March 9, 2018

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Watson

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 2133 establishes the Kinship Caregiver Navigator Program to provide an informational resource for grandparents who are raising their grandchildren outside the formal child welfare system.

The Department of Human Services shall develop a proposal and solicit a contractor to administer the program. The contractor shall:

- Create and maintain a website;
- Create and maintain a kinship caregiver toll-free telephone number to provide supportive listening and guidance to kinship caregivers or people who intend to become kinship caregivers;
- Develop and provide training for individuals to serve as kinship caregiver navigators; and
- Educate the public on services and supports available to kinship caregivers, including developing and administering a statewide marketing campaign.

The contractor shall develop a kinship caregiver navigator website that provides information on support and services available to current kinship caregivers and prospective caregivers. The website shall include the following:

- Federal and state programs;
- Support groups for kinship caregivers and children in the kinship caregiver's care;
- Respite services for kinship caregivers;
- Financial aid;
- Relevant legal resources and assistance;
- Education and supportive services for children;
- Training for current and prospective kinship caregivers; and
- The toll-free telephone number.

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A kinship caregiver navigator shall:

- Assist kinship caregivers with finding information for relevant federal and state benefits;
- Mediate with state agency staff or service providers and assist in establishing relationships between kinship caregivers and relevant federal and state agency staff;
- Work with the local area agency on aging and county agency to identify and provide outreach to kinship caregivers in need of additional services; and
- Refer kinship caregivers to the appropriate county agency contact.

This act shall take effect in 180 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

According to the Department of Human Services, House Bill 2133 is estimated to cost \$2.250 million in total funds (\$1.196 million in state funds and \$1.054 million in federal funds). This amount is projected to decrease to \$2.150 million in total funds (\$1.096 million in state funds and \$1.054 million in federal funds).