2014 Special Session I

Budget Bill - HB5004 (Introduced)

Bill Order » Office of Health and Human Resources » Item 339

Department of Social Services

Item 339	First Year - FY2015	Second Year - FY2016
Child Welfare Services (46900)	**$182,433,897**	**$195,310,751**
Foster Care Payments (46901)	$40,473,220	$50,107,792
Supplemental Child Welfare Activities (46902)	$26,545,518	$26,545,518
Adoption Subsidy Payments (46903)	$115,415,159	$118,657,441
Fund Sources:		
General	$96,937,305	$103,764,806
Special	$325,030	$325,030
Dedicated Special Revenue	$235,265	$235,265
Federal Trust	$84,936,297	$90,985,650

Authority: Title 63.2, Chapters 1, 2, 4 and 8 through 15, Code of Virginia; P.L. 100-294, P.L. 101-126, P.L. 101-226, P.L. 105-89, P.L. 110-351, P.L. 111-320, as amended, Federal Code.

A. Expenditures meeting the criteria of Title IV-E of the Social Security Act shall be fully reimbursed except that expenditures otherwise subject to a standard local matching share under applicable state policy, including local staffing, shall continue to require local match. The commissioner shall ensure that local social service boards obtain reimbursement for all children eligible for Title IV-E coverage.

B. The commissioner, in cooperation with the Department of Planning and Budget, shall establish a reasonable, automatic adjustment for inflation each year to be applied to the room and board maximum rates paid to foster parents. However, this provision shall apply only in fiscal years following a fiscal year in which salary increases are provided for state employees.

C. Out of this appropriation, $500,000 the first year and $500,000 the second year from the general fund shall be provided for the purchase of services for victims child abuse and neglect prevention activities as stated in § 63.2-1502, Code of Virginia, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board of Social Services.

D. Out of this appropriation, $180,200 the first year and $180,200 the second year from the general fund and $99,800 the first year and $99,800 the second year from nongeneral funds shall be provided to continue respite care for foster parents.

E. Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 63.2-1300 through 63.2-1303, Code of Virginia, adoption assistance subsidies and supportive services shall not be available for children adopted through parental placements. This restriction does not apply to existing adoption assistance agreements.

F.1. Out of this appropriation, $1,500,000 the first year from federal funds and $1,500,000 the second year from the

general fund shall be provided to implement pilot programs that increase the number of foster care children adopted.

2. Beginning October 1, 2013, the department shall provide a quarterly report, within 30 days of quarter end, on the use and effectiveness of this funding including, but not limited to, the additional number of special needs children adopted from foster care as a result of this effort and the types of ongoing supportive services provided, to the Governor, Chairmen of House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees, and the Director, Department of Planning and Budget.

G. Out of this appropriation, $33,207,631 the first year and $33,985,779 the second year from the general fund and $7,000,000 the first year and $7,000,000 the second year from nongeneral funds shall be provided for special needs adoptions.

H. Out of this appropriation $37,603,764 the first year and $38,835,831 the second year from the general fund and $37,603,764 the first year and $38,835,831 the second year from nongeneral funds shall be provided for Title IV-E adoption subsidies.

I. The Commissioner, Department of Social Services, shall ensure that local departments that provide independent living services to persons between 18 and 21 years of age make certain information about and counseling regarding the availability of independent living services is provided to any person who chooses to leave foster care or who chooses to terminate independent living services before his twenty-first birthday. Information shall include the option for restoration of independent living services following termination of independent living services, and the processes whereby independent living services may be restored should he choose to seek restoration of such services in accordance with § 63.2-905.1 of the Code of Virginia.

J. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 63.2-1302, Code of Virginia, the Department of Social Services shall negotiate all adoption assistance agreements with both existing and prospective adoptive parents on behalf of local departments of social services. This provision shall not alter the legal responsibilities of the local departments of social services set out in Chapter 13 of Title 63.2, Code of Virginia, nor alter the rights of the adoptive parents to appeal.

2. Out of this appropriation, $358,246 the first year and $342,414 the second year from the general fund and $225,883 the first year and $215,900 the second year from nongeneral funds shall be provided for five positions to execute these negotiations.

K. The Department of Social Services, in cooperation with local departments of social services, shall prepare a report that examines the financial, programmatic and policy implications of the state assuming full responsibility for all aspects of the adoption program. Specifically, this report shall include 1) the fiscal and staffing impact on state and local operations; 2) a draft of any necessary legislative and regulatory changes; 3) a detailed analysis comparing the current locally run program with the proposed state adoption program; 4) an assessment of any impact on children and families. By October 1, 2014, the department shall provide this report to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees, Secretary of Health and Human Resources, and the Director, Department of Planning and Budget.