

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 616 - HB 862

February 25, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to provide juveniles in DCS's custody and housed at juvenile detention facilities or youth development centers with 24-hour, 7 days a week, access to psychological and behavioral health services.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$216,000/FY23-24 and Subsequent Years

Assumptions:

- There are currently 15 licensed juvenile detention facilities and three youth development centers in Tennessee.
- The youth development centers currently employ one mental health practitioner for eight hours of the day, and the juvenile detention facilities have access to a therapist via telehealth eight hours of the day.
- It is assumed that virtual access to psychological and behavioral health services will accomplish the requirements of the legislation.
- In order to ensure that there are psychological or behavioral health services available the other 16 hours of the day, DCS will be required to contract with a therapist for in person or telehealth services for an estimated \$100 per hour.
- It is estimated that the contracted therapist will be utilized for ten hours per month per facility, for a total of 2,160 (10 hours x 18 facilities x 12 months) per year.
- This will create a recurring increase in state expenditures of \$216,000 (2,160 hours x \$100 per hour) in FY23-24 and subsequent years.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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