

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 1913 - SB 1873**

February 3, 2024

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Enacts the *Tennessee Parents' Bill of Rights*, which establishes that a governmental entity may not infringe on the rights of a parent to direct the upbringing, education, health care, and mental health of their child without providing clear and convincing evidence that such action is reasonable and necessary to achieve a compelling state interest and there is no other less restrictive means. Requires written consent of the parent before a biometric scan of the child is made, before any record of the child's blood or DNA is made, or a video or voice recording of the child is made, except in specific circumstances. Requires a government entity to promptly notify a parent if it is suspected that a criminal offense has been committed against their child, unless that would impede an investigation. Authorizes disciplinary action if a government employee encourages or attempts to encourage a child to withhold information from their parent.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation does not authorize parents to engage in any conduct that is otherwise prohibited by law.
- Government entities can provide clear and convincing evidence to parents with regards to its actions by utilizing existing resources.
- Although disciplinary action is not specifically defined in the proposed legislation regarding the punishment of an employee for encouraging the withholding of information from a parent, it is assumed that a government entity will not impose any action that will result in a significant fiscal impact.
- Obtaining written consent from a parent before certain actions are taken can be accomplished without a significant increase in state or local expenditures.
- The proposed legislation will not have any significant impact on the policies or procedures of the Department of Children's Services.
- Any impact on the court system or the Department of Education resulting from increased litigation is assumed to be handled within existing resources, without a significant increase in state or local expenditures.

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**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". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/cd