



February 26, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits the provision of sexual identity change therapy to prepubescent minors. Prohibits the provision of sexual identity change therapy to minors who have entered puberty unless a parent or guardian has written recommendations for the therapy from at least three physicians. Punishes violations as child abuse and designates violations by healthcare professionals as professional misconduct.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$3,700 Incarceration*

Assumptions:

- Based on information provided by the Department of Health (DOH), any impact to DOH is estimated to be not significant.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-15-401(b), any person that knowingly abuses or neglects a child under 18 years of age, as to adversely affect the child's health and welfare, commits a Class A misdemeanor offense; provided, that if the abused or neglected child is eight years of age or less, the penalty is a Class E felony.
- The proposed legislation adds the provision of sexual identity change therapy in violation of the proposed legislation to the definition of "adversely affect the child's health and welfare."
- The proposed legislation will result in one Class E felony admission every 10 years.
- Population growth and recidivism will not impact these admissions.
- According to the DOC, the average operating cost per offender per day for calendar year 2020 is \$75.52.
- The average time served for a Class E felony is 1.35 years.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 9-4-210, one offender will be admitted every 10 years serving an additional 493.09 days (1.35 x 365.25). The annualized increase in state incarceration expenditures is estimated to be \$3,724 (\$75.52 x 493.09 / 10).
- Any cost to local jail systems resulting from possible convictions under this legislation is estimated to be not significant.
- There will not be a sufficient change in the number of misdemeanor prosecutions for the state or local government to experience any significant change in revenue or expenditures.
- Any impact to the court system is estimated to be not significant.

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

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