



March 6, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (004917): Requires the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to conduct a home visit to determine whether a child will receive proper care and supervision in the home prior to notifying the court of its intention to place the child at home on a trial home visit.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 37-1-130(d)(1), DCS is currently required to notify the court of its intention to place a child under its custody at home on a trial home visit, and only if the court objects to this will a hearing be held.
- It is assumed that the proposed legislation will not create a significant decrease in the number of hearings that will be held.
- According to DCS's July 2022 *Visitation Guide*, children under DCS care should visit with their parents no less than twice per month for a minimum of one hour, even if supervision is required. If the visitation is supervised, it is required to be documented in the proper forms.
- Since DCS is already conducting supervised visitations twice per month, it is assumed that requiring a home visit before notifying the court will not create a need for additional resources or personnel, and can therefore be accomplished within existing resources.

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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