

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB35

Patron: Favola

Bill Title: Juvenile & domestic relations district courts; delinquent juv., mental health/disability evaluation.

Bill Summary: Provides that if a juvenile and domestic relations district court finds a juvenile to be delinquent, the court may, before final disposition of the case, direct the appropriate public agency to evaluate such juvenile's mental health or disability needs using an interdisciplinary team approach. The bill requires that any report be filed with the clerk of court and copies provided to all attorneys representing parties in the matter no later than 72 hours prior to the hearing set by the court. The bill permits the juvenile and domestic relations district court, in the alternative, to consider an existing report from an interdisciplinary team if such interdisciplinary team met not more than 90 days prior to the finding that the juvenile is delinquent.

Budget Amendment Necessary: None

Items Impacted: N/A

Explanation: N/A

Fiscal Summary: The fiscal impact on agency operations is indeterminate.

Fiscal Analysis: The Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) has indicated indeterminate costs to the extent that judges use this option and that costs from private providers are incurred. However, there were 2,102 juveniles adjudicated delinquent in FY 2025. If each juvenile requires an evaluation by a private provider, there could be an estimated cost of \$3.36 million general fund each year based on a standard cost of \$1,600 per privately provided evaluation. This could vary depending on the type of evaluation needed.

According to the Department of Social Services, there is no material fiscal impact anticipated from the provisions of the bill.

The impact on the Courts is unknown at this time.

Other: None