

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

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**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** HB283 ER

**Patron:** Gardner

**Bill Title:** Child abuse or neglect; prenatal use of a controlled substance or drug as prescribed.

**Bill Summary:** Clarifies that a pregnant woman's prenatal use of a controlled substance or drug as prescribed by such woman's health care provider for opioid addiction recovery shall not solely be a reason to suspect that a child is abused or neglected.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**Items Impacted:** n/a

**Fiscal Summary:** No fiscal impact.

**Fiscal Analysis:** The Department of Social Services reports that this legislation codifies the existing practice for local departments of social services seeking to determine the validity of child abuse or neglect reports alleging a substance-exposed infant; accordingly, it is not expected that this legislation will result in any new fiscal impacts.

**Other:** n/a