



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 391

January Session, 2003

Substitute House Bill No. 5477

House of Representatives, April 16, 2003

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. VILLANO of the 91st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAXIMIZATION OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) The Commissioner of
2 Children and Families shall do all things necessary to apply for,
3 qualify for and accept any federal funds made available or allotted
4 under any federal act to enhance the development of children and
5 youth, or any other projects, programs or activities which may be
6 established by state or federal law, for any of the purposes or activities
7 related thereto, and said commissioner shall administer any such
8 funds allotted to the department in accordance with applicable state
9 and federal law. Not later than July 1, 2004, and annually thereafter,
10 the commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-
11 4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the
12 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
13 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and human services

14 which sets forth the amount of any federal funds applied for, qualified
15 for, accepted and allotted and the purposes for which such funds are to
16 be used. Such report shall also include an explanation of reasons
17 contributing to the state's failure to qualify for any such federal funds.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Children & Families, Dept.	GF - Cost	\$338,550	\$338,550
Children & Families, Dept.	GF - Revenue Impact	Potential Significant	Potential Significant
Comptroller Misc. Accounts (Fringe Benefits)	GF - Cost	\$59,600	\$127,350
Various State Agencies	Various - Uncertain	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Requiring the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to do all things necessary to apply for, qualify for and accept any federal funds to enhance the development of children and youth will result in a significant cost and a potentially significant revenue gain. DCF currently has no staff that are exclusively dedicated to the federal grant application process, but does employ twenty-seven revenue maximization staff that process applications on behalf of children eligible for Title IV-E and other entitlement programs.

An FY 04 cost to the state of \$398,150 will result. Included in this sum is \$338,550 to support the salaries of one Grant Writer, one Accountant, one Program Supervisor and three Processing Technicians, as well as associated other expenses. Also included are \$59,600 in fringe benefit costs, which are budgeted centrally in miscellaneous accounts administered by the Comptroller¹. In FY 05

¹ The total fringe benefit reimbursement rate as a percentage of payroll is 40.21 percent, effective July 1, 2002. However, first year fringe benefit costs for new

the annualized cost for the six positions would be approximately \$465,900 (\$338,550 DCF; \$127,350 fringe benefits).

These positions would be required to perform various duties associated with the maximization of federal funding, including: researching available grant and entitlement programs, writing grant proposals and federal waiver applications, filing ongoing reports with the federal government, processing additional contracts with service providers, performing fiscal management services, enhancing the ability of the agency's revenue enhancement unit to process entitlement applications, and issuing an annual report to the Appropriations and Human Services Committees.

Additional costs, which cannot be quantified in advance, would be incurred to the extent that state matching requirements would have to be met in order to qualify for certain federal grants-in-aid. Also, the figures above do not include potential costs that might be associated with systems improvements necessary to meet documentation standards needed to qualify for certain federal programs.

Finally, it is unclear to what extent the bill's provisions would apply to those grant-in-aid or entitlement programs serving children that have historically not been under the oversight of DCF (e.g., Medicaid, education).

positions do not include pension costs, lowering the rate to 18.81 percent in FY 04.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5477

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAXIMIZATION OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) commissioner to do whatever is necessary to obtain any federal funds available under any federal act to enhance the development of children and youth or any other related state or federally established projects, programs, or activities. The bill requires the commissioner to administer any such funds allotted to DCF according to applicable state and federal law. It also requires the commissioner, by July 1, 2004, and then annually to submit a report to Appropriations and Human Services committees. The report must contain (1) the amount of federal funds applied for, qualified for, accepted, or allotted; (2) what the funds are to be used for; and (3) an explanation of reasons contributing to the state's failure to qualify for funds.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2003

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 12 Nay 6