

Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: HB1462

Bill Subtitle: TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING YOUTHS IN FOSTER CARE; AND TO CERTIFY UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTHS.

Basic Change :

Sponsors: Reps. Scott, Brooks, Vaught, and A. Collins

HB1462 creates a certification process for unaccompanied homeless youths. The Department of Human Services (DHS) will be required to develop a standardized form that allowable entities must use to certify qualifying unaccompanied homeless youths. HB1462 also amends various sections of current law to allow the certified unaccompanied youth or a child in foster care to apply for an identification card or driver's license at no charge, have any other costs incidental to licensure waived, have the fee for driver education waived, or receive a certified copy of his or her birth certificate at no charge.

Revenue Impact :

HB1462 requires the issuance of free identification cards and driver's licenses to unaccompanied homeless youths and children in foster care. There are approximately 4,300 children in foster care and it is unknown how many persons will be considered a certified unaccompanied homeless youth. The cost of an identification card is \$5.00 and an underage driver's license is \$12.00. The amount of reduced collections of fees is unknown.

Taxpayer Impact :

A child in foster care or a certified unaccompanied homeless youth may receive an identification card or driver's license at no charge.

Resources Required :

The Arkansas Integrated Revenue System (AIRS) will need to be modified at a cost of \$264,000 with ongoing yearly maintenance of \$40,000.

Time Required :

Additional time to implement may be required by the Department of Finance and Administration. An implementation date of January 1, 2024 is recommended.

Procedural Changes :

State Revenue Office and Office of Driver Services employees will require training.

Other Comments :

None.

Legal Analysis :

None.