

HB 4133 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

Action Date: 02/05/20

Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Helt, Keny-Guyer, Meek, Mitchell, Noble, Sanchez, Schouten, Williams, Zika

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/3, 2/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates an unspecified amount from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services, to fund existing contracted domestic violence positions in Child Welfare offices. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Co-location helps keep parent and child together and reduces likelihood of foster care placement
- People of color experience disproportionate rates of domestic violence
- Staffing and service levels due to prior fund recalculation
- Advocates' ability to navigate systems and serve through trauma-informed practices

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Co-Located Advocates Program was founded in 2010 within the Department of Human Services (DHS) and serves survivor parents of domestic violence who have children. Staff spend part of their time in a DHS office (partnering with DHS) and part of their time in a community-based domestic violence organization. In 2019, statewide expansion occurred at the same funding level, resulting in reduction of funding for 19 counties during the expansion.

House Bill 4133 appropriates funding to DHS for statewide staffing of co-located advocates.