

FISCAL NOTE

January 24, 2017

Bill No:	SB 62	Printer's No:	0043	Sponsor:	Greenleaf
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COST / (SAVINGS)

Fund (s)	2016-17	2017-18
General Fund	\$13,000 (one-time)	\$ 0

SUMMARY: The bill would clarify the grounds for involuntary termination of parental rights and establish guidelines and training for officers to ensure the safety of a child upon arrest of his/her parent.

ANALYSIS: The bill would clarify that incarceration would not be the sole grounds for involuntary parental rights termination.

The bill would further clarify that in cases of parental incarceration the court must consider factors such as the efforts made by an incarcerated parent to comply with the family service plan and to maintain a meaningful relationship with his/her child and, as well as the necessity to terminate parental rights due to the needs and welfare of the child before making a decision on the permanency of a child's placement.

Additionally, the bill would establish guidelines and training criteria for law enforcement officers to ensure the safety of a child upon the arrest of his/her parent. The training would be developed by the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) and the Department of Human Services (DHS), in consultation with representatives of county children and youth social service agencies (CCYA).

This act would take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT: The direct fiscal impact of this legislation would be \$10,000 in staff salary and benefits for PSP to develop the training course. The course would be an hour long and delivered via PSP's online training application.

The indirect fiscal impact of this legislation would be related to staff time necessary for PSP's entire officer complement to receive this training. Since 4,500 officers would need one hour of training and would not be doing typical job duties, it would cost \$366,705 in salaries and benefits for lost productivity.

DHS does not expect this legislation to have a direct fiscal impact on its agency or CCYAs; however, this legislation would result in increased work load for employees in order to allow for them to partake in the training.

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The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) expects to utilize the training module developed by PSP to train constables, deputy constables, sheriffs and deputy sheriffs and would incorporate the training module into its normal basic training and continuing education programs. If PSP does not develop the training materials, PCCD would have to develop its own four hour module, which would cost \$2,500 - \$3,000.