



OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

State Budget Office

One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5890

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State Fiscal Note for Bill Number:

2024-H 7823

Date of State Budget Office Approval: Thursday, May 23, 2024

Date Requested: Friday, March 1, 2024

Date Due: Friday, April 12, 2024

<i>Impact on Expenditures</i>	<i>Impact on Revenues</i>
FY 2024 N/A	FY 2024 N/A
FY 2025 \$250,000	FY 2025 N/A
FY 2026 \$750,000	FY 2026 N/A

Explanation by State Budget Office:

This act would require the department of children, youth and families (DCYF) to conduct periodic comprehensive needs assessment to determine whether the department's programs and services meet the needs of children and families in the care of the department, assess client accessibility and collect data to develop goals and measurable objectives for new and existing programs and services. The act would also create a committee that shall advise the entity conducting the comprehensive needs assessments.

Summary of Facts and Assumptions:

The bill would take effect upon passage. The Budget Office assumes that the impact of this bill would take effect in FY 2025 on July 1, 2024.

RIGL 42-72-5(6) currently authorizes the department of children, youth and families (DCYF) to evaluate the services of the department and to conduct periodic comprehensive-needs assessments.

The bill amends the section by requiring DCYF to complete a comprehensive needs assessment for the department's child welfare, juvenile justice, and children's behavioral health services before each re-procurement period and no longer than every five years. The bill states the initial assessment is to be completed no later than March 31, 2026. The assessments shall be completed by an in-state academic institute or in-state consulting firm. If neither option is available, an independent third party may conduct the assessment.

The bill establishes a committee that advises the entity conducting the comprehensive needs assessment. Members of the committee will consist of various stakeholders including the DCYF director, DCYF staff, the Child Advocate, director of Rhode Island Kids Count, a state senator, a state representative, individuals who experienced the child welfare system, and chief judge of the family court. Additionally, the bill establishes a new report to be completed by DCYF upon the completion of a comprehensive needs assessments.

Needs assessments are reports in health and human services field and other sectors to collect information that provides a complete picture of a community's needs and existing resources. According to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, needs assessments "help identify and



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Budget Office Signature: _____

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joseph Codega Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Digitally signed by Joseph
Codega Jr.
Date: 2024.05.24 08:23:42
-04'00'

Fiscal Advisor Signature: _____

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