

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 169

**PRINTER NO.** 159

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

January 30, 2023

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Baker

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 169 amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) further providing for limitation on and change in place of commitment of a child.

This legislation amends Section 6353 (relating to limitation on and change in place of commitment) of Title 42 to require courts to hold disposition review hearings at least every three months for the purpose of ensuring that each child committed to out-of-home placement is receiving necessary services and treatment. At a disposition review hearing, the court shall, at a minimum, determine:

- 1) Whether the child is receiving the necessary services or treatment;
- 2) Whether the child continues to pose a threat to the community;
- 3) Whether additional services or treatment are needed;
- 4) Whether the child should continue in placement or be released under aftercare supervision; and
- 5) The date of the next disposition review hearing.

The court shall state the determinations, along with the reason for each determination, on the record in open court.

This act shall take effect in 180 days.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

According to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), enactment of this legislation will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

Additional responsibilities prescribed in this legislation can be accommodated within existing staffing and funding levels for the Judiciary. The enacted FY 2024-25 budget for the Commonwealth includes an appropriation of \$147 million for Courts of Common Pleas.