JUDICIAL IMPACT FISCAL NOTE

Bill Number: 1227 2SHB	Title: Rights of Families – Allegations of Abuse	Agency: 055 – Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

Part I: Estimates

☐   **No Fiscal Impact**

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

	FY 2022	FY 2023	2021-23	2023-25	2025-27
Total:					

Estimated Expenditures from:

STATE	FY 2022	FY 2023	2021-23	2023-25	2025-27
FTE – Staff Years					
Account					
General Fund – State (001-1)					
State Subtotal					
COUNTY					
County FTE Staff Years					
Account					
Local - Counties					
Counties Subtotal					
CITY					
City FTE Staff Years					
Account					
Local – Cities					
Cities Subtotal					
Local Subtotal					
Total Estimated Expenditures:					

The revenue and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Responsibility for expenditures may be subject to the provisions of RCW 43.135.060.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

☐ If fiscal impact is greater than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form parts I-V

☒ If fiscal impact is less than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date:
Agency Preparation: Sam Knutson	Phone: 360-704-5528	Date: 3/1/2021
Agency Approval: Ramsey Radwan	Phone: 360-357-2406	Date:
OFM Review:	Phone:	Date:

Part II: Narrative Explanation

This bill would require a court to release a child to a parent unless the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that removal of the child is necessary to prevent imminent physical harm and that the evidence shows a causal relationship between the conditions in the home and imminent physical harm to the child.

The bill would modify the standards used to authorize detention or removal of a child from a parent.

This bill differs from underlying HB 1227:
The substitute bill would specify that imminent physical harm, the standard used in the underlying bill to determine whether a child should be removed from a parent, includes that which results from sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or a pattern of severe neglect.

The substitute bill would replace the term "supporting services" with the term "prevention services," which is defined in current law.

The substitute bill would specify that disbelief on the part of the relative or other suitable person that the parent presents a danger to the child must not prevent the child's placement with such relative or other suitable person provided the caregiver will protect the safety of the child and comply with court orders regarding contact with a parent, guardian, or legal custodian.

The substitute bill would require the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) to begin an assessment of a relative or other suitable person's home within 72 hours of placement instead of 24 hours and issue an initial license instead of expediting licensure.

The substitute bill would specify that relatives seeking licensure will receive a foster care maintenance payment starting on the first day the person agrees to begin the licensing process.

The substitute bill would specify that failure to comply with court orders and placement moves while a child is in shelter care will be considered when determining whether reasonable efforts have been made by the DCYF.

Effective date of July 1, 2023 is established for this bill.

Part II.A – Brief Description of what the Measure does that has fiscal impact on the Courts

II.B - Cash Receipt Impact

None.

II.C – Expenditures

Indeterminate. It is unknown how many hearings or proceedings may result from or be impacted by this bill. The bill may increase the length of some shelter care hearings. If a parent is not represented by counsel, a County Clerk would be required to provide information to the parent regarding how to obtain counsel.

Forms would need to be revised, and judicial education would be required. These impacts would be managed within existing resources.