

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**SENATE BILL NO. 2327**  
**LC# 23.0414.02000**  
**01/25/2023**

**1 - State Fiscal Effect**

*Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2021-2023 Biennium		2023-2025 Biennium		2025-2027 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
<b>Revenues</b>						
<b>Expenditures</b>			\$250,000		\$250,000	
<b>Appropriations</b>			\$250,000		\$250,000	

**2 - County, City, School District, and Township Fiscal Effect**

*Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2021-2023 Biennium	2023-2025 Biennium	2025-2027 Biennium
<b>Counties</b>			
<b>Cities</b>			
<b>School Districts</b>			
<b>Townships</b>			

**3 - Bill and Fiscal Impact Summary**

*Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

A BILL for an Act to create and enact chapter 14-15.2 and a new section to chapter 44-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the creation of the fathers' adoption registry and an exemption to open records requests pertaining to the registry.

**4 - Fiscal Impact Sections Detail**

*Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

14 - 15.2 - 02. Under subsection, the executive director shall establish the fathers' adoption registry. The fathers' adoption registry shall identify and locate a registered alleged father so an interested party may provide notice of a petition to adopt a minor as required under section 14 - 15 - 11. A search of the fathers' adoption registry may serve as notice of relinquishment and termination of parental rights if subdivision c or d of subsection 6 of section 14 - 15 -

19 apply. A limitation on an alleged father's right to assert an interest in the child as provided in this section applies only in adoption proceedings and does not apply to an individual entitled to notice and consent under section 14 - 15 - 05 or 14 - 15 - 11. A registrant is responsible for updating his personal information on the registry. The executive director may establish informational material and public service announcements necessary to implement this section. Initial Fiscal impact to setup the registry of \$55,000. There will be 1 FTE to maintain the registry, send notifications, and other related duties \$165,000.

14 - 15.2 - 11. Right to counsel at public expense. Upon proof of indigence, an alleged father who has registered with the fathers' adoption registry, has received a notice to registered alleged father, and has timely filed an intent to claim paternal rights form with the court administrator, must have counsel appointed at public expense.

## **5 - Revenues Detail**

*For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1 or 2, please explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

The revenue would be anticipated. 14 - 15.2 - 06. Criminal penalty for registering false information. An individual who knowingly or intentionally registers false information under this section is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. 14 - 15.2 - 13. Fees for fathers' adoption registry. In addition to any other filing fees, the state court administrator shall assess a seventy-five-dollar adoption filing fee surcharge on an adoption petition filed in a district court. The state court administrator shall remit funding collected under this section to the state treasurer. The state treasurer shall deposit fees collected under this section in the department of health and human services operating fund for the purpose of implementing and maintaining the fathers' adoption registry, subject to legislative appropriations. No revenues were included in the fiscal note projection, as noted fees exist to obtain revenue to offset program expenses.

## **6 - Expenditures Detail**

*For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1 or 2, please explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

Fiscal impact to setup the registry is estimated at \$55,000. There will be an increase of 1 FTE to maintain registry the cost total \$165,000 per biennium. \$30,000 for operating expenses, travel, system maintenance, and mail. All the funds would impact general.

## **7 - Appropriations Detail**

*For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1 or 2, please explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

The items outlined in SB 2327 are not included in the HHS executive budget. The costs associated with SB 2327 would require an additional general fund appropriation of \$250,000. Appropriation to salaries and wages for \$165,000, operating for \$85,000.

## **Contact Information**

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