

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS  
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6302**  
**BILL NUMBER: HB 1036**

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 16, 2026  
**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 16, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Children in Need of Services.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Garcia Wilburn  
**FIRST SPONSOR:** Sen. Rogers

**BILL STATUS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** No Fiscal Impact

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill requires the Department of Child Services (DCS) to have in-person contact with an alleged victim of child abuse or neglect: (1) before concluding an assessment; and (2) before dismissing or terminating a pending child in need of services case with the juvenile court.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2026.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** In the most recent Child Welfare Policy manual publication, the DCS adheres to the following timelines for *in-person* assessments after a local office receives notification of suspected child abuse or neglect:

- (1) Two hours if the allegations would cause a reasonable person to believe the child is in imminent danger of serious bodily harm;
- (2) Twenty-four hours if the allegations involve abuse but the conditions in item (1) do not apply; or
- (3) Five days if the allegations involve neglect and none of the conditions in items (1) or (2).

It is assumed the DCS's current policy on in-person assessments in these situations would satisfy what is included in the bill.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** DCS.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** <https://www.in.gov/dcs/files/4.04.pdf>; <https://www.in.gov/dcs/files/4.38.pdf>;

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