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

LS 6851
BILL NUMBER: HB 1389

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 2, 2026
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Adoption and Foster Care Matters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Lindauer
FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Johnson

BILL STATUS: As Passed House

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

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill prohibits a governmental entity from discriminating against a person in adoption and foster care matters based on the person's sincerely held religious belief. It allows a person to bring a cause of action against a governmental entity for discriminating against the person, or raise a violation as a claim or defense in a judicial proceeding, and allows for certain remedies. It also provides that there is a two year statute of limitation for a discrimination claim.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill could increase the workload of the Department of Child Services and/or the Attorney General to defend the state against civil actions filed by individuals who feel they have been discriminated against based on their religious beliefs.

To the extent a complainant is found to have been discriminated against, the bill could also increase state expenditures from declaratory relief in the form of court costs, attorney fees, and/or compensatory damages. Increases in state expenditures are indeterminable.

Explanation of State Revenues: If additional civil cases occur and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund will increase. The total revenue per case would range between $100 and $122. The amount deposited will vary depending on whether the case is filed in a court of record or a municipal court. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: If additional cases occur, revenue will be collected by certain local units. If the case is filed in a court of record, the county will receive $32 and qualifying municipalities will receive a share of $3. If the case is filed in a municipal court, the county receives $20, and the municipality will receive $37. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Child Services, Attorney General

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts.

Information Sources: Indiana Supreme Court, Indiana Trial Court Fee Manual

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