

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

**LS 6221**  
**BILL NUMBER: SB 15**

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 16, 2026  
**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 12, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Foster Youth.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Walker K  
**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Lopez

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

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill requires the Department of Child Services (DCS) to:  
(1) create a statement called "The Foster Youth Bill of Rights", which is to summarize a foster youth's rights and responsibilities;  
(2) update the statement periodically;  
(3) distribute the statement to specified individuals; and  
(4) publish the statement on the DCS's website.

It defines "foster youth" for purposes of the foster youth bill of rights. It also makes conforming changes.

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

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The bill's requirements are within the DCS's routine administrative functions and should be able to be implemented using existing staffing and resources.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Child Services.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Indiana Department of Child Services, Bill of Rights for Youth in Care, [https://www.in.gov/dcs/files/Indiana\\_DCS\\_Bill\\_of\\_Rights\\_for\\_Youth\\_in\\_Care.pdf](https://www.in.gov/dcs/files/Indiana_DCS_Bill_of_Rights_for_Youth_in_Care.pdf);

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