

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

LS 6551
BILL NUMBER: SB 137

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 10, 2025
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Involuntary Treatment of Substance Use Disorder.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Dernulc
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows an individual's spouse, legal guardian, friend, relative, or medical service provider to petition a court for involuntary substance use disorder treatment. This bill requires a petition to include certain information and allows a court to dismiss a petition, without prejudice, if it does not contain the required information. This bill requires the court to appoint a public defender if the individual subject to a petition seeking involuntary substance use disorder treatment is not represented by an attorney.

This bill requires a court to order the individual to be evaluated by a medical provider if the court finds that:

- (1) the individual has a substance use disorder;
- (2) because of the individual's substance use disorder, the individual is experiencing impaired judgment and is unable to independently maintain the individual's activities of daily living or is a danger to self or others; and
- (3) the individual refuses to voluntarily participate in substance use disorder treatment.

This bill allows a court to order a local law enforcement agency to consider whether an individual meets the criteria for emergency detention under certain circumstances. This bill requires a medical provider who completes an evaluation concerning an individual's need for substance use disorder treatment to submit the evaluation to the court. This bill specifies that after receiving an evaluation from a medical provider, the court may dismiss the petition or set a hearing for further evidence to be presented about the individual's need for substance use disorder treatment. This bill requires a court to order involuntary outpatient substance use disorder treatment for a period, not to exceed 90 days, if medical evidence supports that the individual requires immediate treatment for a substance use disorder and the individual has refused treatment.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: *Court Fee Revenue:* If additional petitions are filed regarding involuntary substance use disorder treatment, 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](#). A court may waive the filing fee if a petitioner is found to be indigent.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Local law enforcement would have an increase in workload to serve notice on a filed petition. The bill's requirements are within their routine administrative functions and should be able to be implemented with no additional appropriations, assuming near customary staffing and resource levels.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Court Fee Revenue:* If additional petitions are filed, 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](#). A court may waive the filing fee if a petitioner is found to be indigent.

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts; local law enforcement agencies.

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

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