



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

*Jim Ramey*

---

## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

---

**Bill:** [S.B. 163 of the 129th G.A.](#)

**Date:** September 21, 2011

**Status:** As Introduced

**Sponsor:** Sen. Kearney

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

**Contents:** Requires generally that siblings in the custody of a public children services agency be placed together

### State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

### Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill requires public children services agencies (PCSAs) to make reasonable efforts to place siblings together in substitute care, and if unable to place siblings together the bill requires PCSAs to ensure siblings' interaction, in accordance with federal law. Since federal law already requires this, the bill will not have any fiscal effect on PCSAs.

---

## Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill requires public children services agencies (PCSAs) to make reasonable efforts to place siblings together, when children come into the custody of a PCSA, unless a joint placement would be contrary to the safety or well being of any of the children. If the PCSA is unable to place the children together, the bill requires the PCSA to make reasonable efforts to ensure the siblings' interaction, unless frequent visitation or ongoing interaction would be contrary to the safety or well being of any of the children. Federal law currently requires this of states.<sup>1</sup> Since these requirements are already specified in federal law, the bill will not have any fiscal effect on PCSAs.

SB0163IN / th

---

<sup>1</sup> 42 U.S.C. 671(a)(31).