

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### RS25950

The proposed legislation expands the definition of child custody to include use of manipulation or physiological abuse including parent alienation that creates developmental pathology, personality disorder pathology or delusional psychiatric pathology as diagnosed by a mental health professional. The legislation clarifies requirements of a fleeing parent and affirmative defense. This legislation directs law enforcement officials to make reasonable attempts to contact defendants and provides a penalty of a misdemeanor for offenders. The proposed legislation also allows for all divorce decrees that contain child custody and visitation privileges for children under eighteen (18) years old may be maintained in a statewide database that is easily accessible to law enforcement officials. Technical corrections are included in this legislation.

### FISCAL NOTE

Although the amount of new misdemeanor convictions is unpredictable, in general, a new misdemeanor would increase revenue derived from fines. Assuming there were 100 convictions in a fiscal year, the income derived from fines and fees statewide is estimated to be a net increase of up to \$25,750 per fiscal year. This would be offset by an increase in total cost of approximately \$110,680 which includes \$45,266 for public defense and \$65,414 for prosecution at the county level. The data is already on file and the cost of sharing it with law enforcement should be minimal.

#### Contact:

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**DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).**