

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS26665

The purpose of the bill is to prevent forced or coerced marriages and the trafficking of children and to limit marriage to those with the legal and practical ability to protect themselves from abuse. This bill aligns marriage laws with our statutory rape laws and would permit minors to marry only if they consented to the marriage, have written consent from parents or legal guardian, permission from the court, and are appropriately mature and self-sufficient to enter into a marriage contract.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no impact to the general fund. There may be minimal impact seen in some local courts, but based on data from the Division of Public Health, the number of marriages under the age of 16 have been declining, with very few in the past 10 years. Therefore, the fiscal impact to local entities is very low.

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).