

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT**  
**FISCAL NOTE**

AGENCY'S ESTIMATES

Date Prepared: February 9, 2015

Agency Submitting: Washoe County

<b>Items of Revenue or Expense, or Both</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2014-15</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2015-16</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2016-17</b>	<b>Effect on Future Biennia</b>
Increase in expenditures (Expense)				
Loss of IV-E Federal Funds (Revenue)				
Total	0	0	0	0

Explanation

(Use Additional Sheets of Attachments, if required)

There is significant potential fiscal impact to this proposed change. Raising the burden of proof to the child welfare agency does not alter what the agency already does, but it significantly increases the resources required for further litigating the matter, resulting in greater attorney and associated legal costs; greater child welfare staff time managing the case, potentially leaving children longer in costly out-of-home care which further traumatizes the child; and delaying services to the family and child to effectuate potential reunification or efforts toward termination of rights and adoption. All of these actions will result in expending current resources that will then be unavailable for existing child welfare operations; additionally there is a potential loss of Federal Title IV-E reimbursement if proper reasonable efforts are missed at court hearings and appropriate orders are not issued during the lengthened process. Estimating the eventual fiscal impact of those potential additional costs or potential loss of reimbursement revenue cannot be calculated accurately at this time.

Name Liane Lee

Title Government Affairs Manager