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Senate Fiscal Agency  
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Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

**SFA****BILL ANALYSIS**

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Senate Bill 736 (as reported without amendment)  
Sponsor: Senator Martha G. Scott  
Committee: Families, Mental Health and Human Services

**CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Friend of the Court (FOC) Act to require that FOC training programs include training regarding domestic violence issues.

Under the Act, the State FOC Bureau must provide training programs for county FOC offices and their employees and domestic relations mediators, to improve their ability to carry out the duties described in the Act and in Supreme Court rules. Under the bill, the training programs would have to include training in the dynamics of domestic violence and in handling domestic relations matters having a history of domestic violence.

MCL 552.519

Legislative Analyst: P. Affholter

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The State Court Administrative Office estimates that the costs of additional training, based on training 100 Friend of the Court employees annually, would be approximately \$22,900.

Date Completed: 11-1-01

Fiscal Analyst: B. Bowerman