

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-7287

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Revenue Loss	4.5 million	5.8 million
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	97,642	102,781
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Potential Cost	38,489	40,606

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill adds opioid use disorder to the list of qualifying conditions for medical marijuana and removes the patient and caregiver fees in the medical marijuana program resulting in a revenue loss and potential cost to the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP).

Removing the patient (\$100) and caregiver (\$25) fees results in a revenue loss of \$4.5 million in FY 20 and \$5.8 million in FY 21. There are currently 33,800 patients and 4,600 caregivers in the program who pay the annual fees.

The bill also results in a potential cost to DCP of \$136,131 in FY 20

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 41.19% of payroll in FY 20 and FY 21.

and \$143,387 in FY 21 to hire two processing technicians if the current application wait times are to remain constant, with the addition of opioid use disorder to the list of qualifying conditions. Approximately 11,000 new patients are anticipated to apply to the program as a result of the new condition being added.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the number of applications.