

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-7125

AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE
DISORDER BENEFITS.

AMENDMENT

LCO No.: 8207

File Copy No.: 343

House Calendar No.: 221

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits	GF, TF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Various Municipalities	STATE MANDATE ¹ - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The amendment strikes the underlying bill and its associated fiscal impact.

Section 1 of the amendment is not anticipated to result in a cost to the Insurance Department to comply with the requirements of the amendment as the agency has the expertise to do so.

¹ State mandate is defined in Sec. 2-32b(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, "state mandate" means any state initiated constitutional, statutory or executive action that requires a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

Sections 2 and 4 do not result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities as they pertain to individual health insurance policies.

Section 3 does not result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities as it codifies federal law.

Section 5 will result in a cost to the state and municipal health plans to the extent services are required to be covered for court ordered services that otherwise would have been excluded. The cost will depend on the mix of services and utilization. Under the state plan, court ordered services that have been ordered as a condition of probation or parole are generally not covered by the plan.

The cost to fully-insured municipal plans to comply with the provisions of section 5 the amendment will be reflected in premiums for policy years beginning on and after January 1, 2020. Pursuant to federal law, self-insured plans are exempt from state health insurance mandates.²

In addition, many municipal health plans are recognized as “grandfathered” health plans under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).³ It is unclear what effect the adoption of certain health mandates will have on the grandfathered status of certain municipal plans under ACA.

The preceding Fiscal Impact statement is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst’s professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

² The state employee and retiree health plan is self-insured; however, the plan has historically adopted all health insurance mandates.

³ Grandfathered plans include most group insurance plans and some individual health plans created or purchased on or before March 23, 2010.