

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6665

AN ACT CONCERNING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Policy & Mgmt., Off.	GF - Cost	90,200	90,200
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	38,600	38,600
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	7,683,000	12,595,200
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Savings	42,172,000	63,700,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in net savings of \$34.4 million in FY 24 and \$60 million in FY 25 reflecting the net impact of (1) state costs of \$7.8 million in FY 24 and \$12.7 million in FY 25, and (2) state savings of \$42.2 million in FY 24 and \$63.7 million in FY 25. The fiscal impact by section is detailed below.

Sections 1 - 3 and 12 - 16 require the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to serve as the lead agency responsible for coordinating autism services across state agencies and school districts that directly provide for or oversee services for individuals on the autism spectrum. This results in a cost of approximately \$90,200 in FY

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 42.82% of payroll in FY 24.

24 and FY 25 (as well as associated fringe costs of \$38,600 each year) to support an additional staff position for this purpose.

Section 4 results in additional costs to the Department of Social Services (DSS) related to changes to the Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) program. Increased costs are due to (1) increasing the asset limit from \$3,000 to \$6,000, resulting in a cost of \$760,000 in FY 24 and \$3.3 million in FY 25, and (2) increasing the income disregard from 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) to 230% FPL, resulting in a cost of \$1.2 million in FY 24 and \$3.1 million in FY 25.

Section 5 results in a cost of \$140,000 in FY 24 and \$480,000 in FY 25 due to increasing the asset limit under the State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) program from \$250 to \$500.

Section 6 results in a cost of \$383,000 in FY 24 and \$515,200 in FY 25 to reflect allowing individuals seeking coverage to receive Supplemental Assistance benefits for up to 90 days prior to the date of application if otherwise eligible for the program.

Sections 7, 10 and 11 result in a savings of \$4,372,000 in FY 24 due to eliminating statutory rate increases for residential care homes and rated housing facilities in FY 24.

Section 11 also results in a cost of \$5.2 million in both FY 24 and FY 25 due to rebasing rates for residential care homes (RCHs) based on 2022 cost reports.

Sections 8 and 9 result in a savings of \$37.8 million in FY 24 and \$63.7 million in FY 25 due to eliminating statutory rate increases for nursing homes and intermediate care facilities (ICFs).

The Out Years

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