

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sSB-977

AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR SURGERY
AND MEDICAL SERVICES RELATED TO TREATMENT OF
OBESITY.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Social Services (DSS) associated with expanding Medicaid and HUSKY B coverage for certain obesity-related services. The extent of the cost is unknown at this time.

Currently, surgical services are covered if necessary to treat morbid obesity that causes or aggravates another medical illness. For context, morbid obesity involves a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or higher. The bill requires (1) medical services for members with a BMI of over 35, and (2) bariatric surgery and related medical services for beneficiaries with severe obesity (BMI of at least 35 with a comorbid disease or condition, or a BMI of over 40). Based on historical claims, there are approximately 120,000 adults and children who are reported as obese. The bill will increase the number of individuals eligible for both surgical and medical services, which will increase state costs.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the utilization and cost of expanded

services under the bill.