

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0697-01
Bill No.: HB 217
Subject: Employees - Employers; Health Care; Health Care Professionals; Health, Public
Type: Original
Date: February 7, 2005

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
General Revenue	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)	(Less than \$100,000)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Economic Development - Division of Professional Registration** assume this proposal would not fiscally impact their agency.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services (DOS)** assumes since the employer of the health care provider pays the cost of testing, there would be no fiscal impact to the DOS.

The **Department of Health and Senior Services (DOH)** assumes the role of the DOH would be to provide materials on HCV and the benefits of HCV testing. DOH would minimize printing and mailing costs for the materials by posting the materials on the official DOH web site. DOH would provide technical assistance to health care agencies for the implementation of the voluntary HCV testing program. DOH assumes that the technical assistance is accomplished with minimal staff costs for travel. DOH would not pay for HCV testing; the employer of health care providers volunteering for HCV testing would absorb all testing costs.

The proposal states that HCV test results would remain confidential and disclosed only to the health care provider and the health care facility/employer that ordered the test. The role of DOH would be to provide technical assistance as needed concerning confidentiality and recommendations for health care providers with HCV.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Therefore, DOH assumes this proposal would not be expected to fiscally impact the operations of DOH. If an impact were to result, funds to support the program would be sought through the appropriations process.

Officials from the **Department of Mental Health (DMH)** assume there is a potential for a fiscal impact to the DMH for employees who choose to be tested. DMH states the cost for Hepatitis C tests can range from \$73.50 to \$218.50 per test and DMH states at least 6,000 employees may be regarded as “health care providers”.

DMH states this proposal could possibly require a part time employee to perform the testing and provide counseling. The DMH estimates costs could be \$0 to \$100,000 per year or more.

Oversight assumes since tests are voluntary, up to 1,360 employees (\$100,000/\$73.50) of the total 6,000 health employees (22.6%) could be tested per year before costs would exceed \$100,000.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
GENERAL REVENUE			
Costs - Department of Mental Health Program costs	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

Small businesses which are health care providers could be fiscally impacted by this proposal.

DESCRIPTION

This proposal requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish and oversee a voluntary hepatitis C testing program for health care providers. The cost of the testing must be paid by the health care provider's employer. Testing is confidential, and results may only be disclosed to the facility where the health care provider offers patient care. The department may only notify the facility of restrictions and limitations on the health care provider.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Mental Health
Department of Social Services
Department of Economic Development -
Professional Registration
Department of Health and Senior Services



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
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