

Fiscal Estimate - 2003 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 03-3093/1	Introduction Number SB-243
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Subject
 Provision of dental and dental hygiene services to MA recipients by a volunteer health care provider

Fiscal Effect

State:

No State Fiscal Effect
 Indeterminate

<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
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Local:

No Local Government Costs
 Indeterminate

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
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Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	

Agency/Prepared By DHFS/ Ellen Hadidian (608) 266-8155	Authorized Signature Freda Ellen Bove (608) 266-2907	Date 10/2/2003
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHFS 10/2/2003

LRB Number	03-3093/1	Introduction Number	SB-243	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Provision of dental and dental hygiene services to MA recipients by a volunteer health care provider					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a volunteer health care provider and a nonprofit agency who jointly provide health care services, and whose volunteer status has been approved by the state, must provide these services without charge primarily to low-income individuals who are uninsured and are not recipients of Medical Assistance (Medicaid) or Medicare. Dentists, but not dental hygienists, are among the volunteer health care providers included in this provision.

Under current law, volunteer health care providers who have been approved by the state become agents of the state for liability purposes. If a civil action arises out of an act committed by the provider during the lawful course of that person's duties, the state provides legal counsel and any judgements against the provider are paid by the state and capped at \$250,000.

Liability claims against the state are paid from funds administered by the Department of Administration. The Department pays premiums to DOA for liability insurance. Currently the Department pays \$47,000 annually for medical malpractice insurance.

This bill allows dental hygienists to be included among volunteer health care providers. It is possible that, if these volunteer dental hygienists were added to the Department for liability purposes, the number of liability claims to the state would increase. It is not possible to project what the amount of this increase would be because the extent of possible increased liabilities is not known.

The bill also allows a volunteer health care provider who is a dentist or dental hygienist to provide dental services to Medicaid recipients under certain circumstances. Under this bill, a nonprofit agency which is affiliated with the volunteer health care provider of dental services may charge a fee for these services, provided the agency bills clients according to their ability to pay.

Under this legislation, qualifying nonprofit agencies affiliated with volunteer dental service providers will be able to charge the Medicaid program for the cost of care of Medicaid clients. Medicaid recipients currently are underserved in the area of oral health and it is possible that the number of recipients receiving services will increase under this bill.

The cost of dental services to Medicaid recipients was \$202.56/person in FY 03. It is not known how many agencies and providers will qualify under this legislation, but to the extent that Medicaid dental services increase, Medicaid costs will increase. For example, if an additional 2,000 recipients receive services under this bill, the cost to the state would be \$405,100 AF (\$156,300 GPR and \$248,800 FED) annually.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications