

Fiscal Estimate - 2009 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 09-0899/2	Introduction Number AB-0195	
Description The Volunteer Health Care Provider Program		
Fiscal Effect		
State: <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		
Local: <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts		
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		
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 4/28/2009

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Description The Volunteer Health Care Provider Program					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a health care provider and nonprofit agency can petition DOA to allow the provider to provide, without charge to low-income patients, health care services, including health education, office visits, prescriptions and, for dentists, simple tooth extracting and necessary related suturing. The health care provider becomes a state agent of the Department for the provision of these services. 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 judgments against the provider are paid by the state and capped at \$250,000. However, a governmental unit need not provide or pay for legal representation if the provider's malpractice insurance provides representation.

This bill adds chiropractors, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, massage therapists, acupuncturists, and phlebotomists to the list of those who can petition to become volunteer health care providers and gives the status of state agents of DHS to those health care providers who provide services under the volunteer program.

Liability claims against the state are paid from funds administered by the Department of Administration. The Department pays premiums to DOA for liability insurance. The Department paid \$271,975 for liability insurance and \$105,066 for medical malpractice insurance in SFY 09. If these volunteer health care providers were added to the Department for liability purposes, and claims were made against them, the Department's liability premiums would also increase. However, the amount by which the premiums will increase as a result of the bill cannot be estimated.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications