

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 2/7/2018

LRB Number	17-5242/2	Introduction Number	AB-0907	Estimate Type	Original
Description Continuing education in prescribing controlled substances for certain health care practitioners; maintenance and detoxification treatment provided by physician assistants and advanced practice nurse prescribers; requiring school boards to provide instruction about drug abuse awareness and prevention; graduate training of psychiatric nurses; training materials for social services workers handling substance abuse-related cases; substance abuse counseling and modifying and creating administrative rules related to substance abuse counseling; granting rule-making authority; and making appropriations					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill directs the Department to not require prior authorization for, or other limitation on, the prescribing and dispensing of buprenorphine combination products to a Medicaid recipient who is not pregnant. This provision is not expected to significantly change Medicaid expenditures. The provision could result in Medicaid reimbursing for buprenorphine in a small number of cases where the current prior authorization process would have denied reimbursement. However, the cost impact is expected to be small.

Substance treatment programs that accept Medicaid or other public funding must be certified under DHS 75. That rule specifies these programs must be staffed by certain professionals licensed or certified by DSPS statutes and administrative rules. To the extent this bill makes changes to DSPS statutes and rules for those professionals, it may affect the type of individuals who staff DHS 75 certified programs. However, the bill is not expected to significantly affect the types or amount of services provided by those programs and therefore will not significantly change substance abuse treatment expenditures by the Department or county human services agencies.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications