

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

ALTC 2/21/2024

LRB Number	23-5507/1	Introduction Number	AB-1088	Estimate Type	Original
Description consent to admissions to certain health care facilities by patient representatives, allocation of nursing beds for patients with certain complex needs, and a complex patient pilot program					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Assembly Bill (AB)-1088 proposes that a patient's representative may consent to an admission of an incapacitated individual to a nursing home or community based residential facility without a petition for guardianship or protective placement of the incapacitated individual if various criteria are met. One component of the required criteria is that the facility to which the incapacitated individual is admitted notifies a representative of the Board on Aging and Long-Term Care (BOALTC) of the admission no later than 72 hours after the admission.

The proposed requirement is anticipated to result in an increased workload for the BOALTC Ombudsman program which is staffed with a 1.0 FTE intake staff position. The position currently receives approximately 8,700 intake contacts via phone or e-mail for the Ombudsman program on an annual basis, excluding contacts directly with the Regional Ombudsman. The BOALTC Ombudsman program has 17 Regional Ombudsman who are assigned to perform field and casework, serving approximately 125,000 clients throughout the State.

The proposed bill requirement applies to nursing homes and community based residential facilities, of which there are 397 nursing homes, 61 of which are "swing bed" units operated by hospitals and often serving long-term care clients. There are 1,547 community based residential facilities in the State. Therefore, the proposed requirement under this bill would result in BOALTC receiving notices relating to pertinent admissions at 1,944 long-term care homes throughout the State.

It is indeterminate as to how many clients would be affected by the proposed requirements and subsequently admitted under these bills. Therefore, BOALTC is not able to estimate how many notices it would be required to track, and it is unclear if BOALTC would need to act on a respective case by contacting the person admitted. Due to these reasons, the fiscal impact of the bill is indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications