

Fiscal Estimate - 2017 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 17-1527/1	Introduction Number AB-0819
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Description
 employment of individuals with disabilities enrolled in long-term care programs and making an appropriation

Fiscal Effect

State:

- No State Fiscal Effect
- Indeterminate
 - Increase Existing Appropriations
 - Decrease Existing Appropriations
 - Create New Appropriations
- Increase Existing Revenues
- Decrease Existing Revenues
- Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
 - Yes No
- Decrease Costs

Local:

- No Local Government Costs
 - Indeterminate
 - 1. Increase Costs Permissive Mandatory
 - 2. Decrease Costs Permissive Mandatory
 - 3. Increase Revenue Permissive Mandatory
 - 4. Decrease Revenue Permissive Mandatory
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected
- Towns Village Cities
 - Counties Others
 - School Districts 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	

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
DHS/ Angela Waltz (608) 266-5362	Andy Forsaith (608) 266-7684	1/16/2018

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 1/16/2018

LRB Number	17-1527/1	Introduction Number	AB-0819	Estimate Type	Original
Description employment of individuals with disabilities enrolled in long-term care programs and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires the Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD) to develop an employment coaching program, which would provide long-term care provider and employer coaching, along with a small amount of annual grant funding to qualifying entities. The program would focus on the hiring of individuals with disabilities and the development of employer-based natural job supports for employees with disabilities. The bill requires the BPDD to request proposals from specified service providers to participate in the coaching program, including Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) that administer the Family Care and Family Care Partnership programs and IRIS Consultant Agencies. The bill increases funding to the BPDD by \$75,000 in FY 2019 to be used for the purposes of program implementation and to provide grant awards for selected entities that meet all of the criteria specified in the bill. Grant recipients would be required to submit an annual report to the BPDD, demonstrate an increase in the number of businesses hiring individuals with disabilities and providing internal employee-based natural job supports for these employees, and demonstrate a 25% or greater reduction in public spending on employment supports for individuals with disabilities.

Natural employer supports are a type of supported employment that is contractually allowable under the Department's Medicaid home and community-based waiver programs, Family Care, Family Care Partnership, and IRIS. Natural employment support services may be provided by a co-worker or other job site personnel as long as the services are not part of that employee's normal duties and the employee meets the qualifications established for providers of this service. Employers may be reimbursed for supported employment services provided by co-workers. Although training costs for employer-based job coaches are federally allowable Medicaid waiver expenditures, the Department does not currently compensate MCOs directly for employer-based job coach training, such as what would be provided by BPDD under the provisions of this bill.

It is unknown whether any Family Care MCOs, Family Care Partnership MCOs, or IRIS Consultant Agencies would submit a grant application to BPDD in order to participate in this program. From 2011-2017, the BPDD promoted a similar natural supports model of integrated employment through its five-year 'Let's Get to Work' national systems change grant program; however, although contractually allowable, MCOs have not elected to implement this model. The amount of annual funding appropriated for BPDD to operate this program and provide grants to service providers would likely be insufficient to incentivize MCOs and ICAs to apply for grant funding, in particular given the grant recipient's obligation to demonstrate a 25% or greater reduction in public spending on employment supports for individuals with disabilities.

It is estimated that this bill would have no fiscal impact on the Department, since natural employer supports are already contractually allowable under the Department's Medicaid home and community-based waiver programs. In addition, although funding under this bill creates a new program, in many ways this bill would continue portions of BPDD's recently concluded grant project, which promoted a similar model of integrated employment as part of its efforts.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications