

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6741

AN ACT IMPROVING THE SAFETY OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND PATIENTS.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	785,000	1,320,000
Policy & Mgmt., Off.	GF - Cost	120,100	234,400
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	48,700	99,900

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Section 1 requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to develop a marketing campaign by 1/1/24 that includes monthly public service announcements on radio and television about the mistreatment of healthcare providers, encouraging public civility in healthcare settings, which results in a cost to the agency of \$785,000 in FY 24 and \$1,320,000 in FY 25. There is a one-time cost for the production of the radio and television public service announcements of \$125,000 in FY 24 only, a cost of \$600,000 in FY 24 and \$1,200,000 in FY 25 for radio and television airtime, and an adverting agency cost of \$60,000 in FY 24 and \$120,000 in FY 25 for monthly reports analyzing the effectiveness of the campaign.

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 42.82% of payroll in FY 24.

Section 2 creates a Hospital Security Grant Program within the Office of Policy and Management (OPM). This results in a General Fund cost of approximately \$168,800 in FY 24 and \$334,300 in FY 25 for administration of the new program, and an additional cost for the grants. The cost and the timing of the grants is unknown; the bill does not appropriate funds for the grants.

Of the administration costs, \$120,100 in FY 24 and \$234,400 in FY 25 are to OPM for staffing, training, and supplies, and \$48,700 in FY 24 and \$99,900 in FY 25 are to the Office of the State Comptroller for associated fringe benefits. The costs to OPM include three staff at a 50% phase-in in FY 24 with salary costs of \$113,800, with annualized personnel costs fully realized in FY 25 at \$234,400. The estimated costs also include \$6,300 for training, supplies, and a one-time computer cost in FY 24, and annualized costs of \$1,000 in FY 25.

Section 3 allows hospitals to establish policies and procedures related to healthcare provider, staff, and patient safety, which is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the State or municipalities.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.