

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200
Hartford, CT 06106 ◊ (860) 240-0200
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

SB-931

AN ACT EXPANDING ACCESS TO THE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE
RESPIRE CARE PROGRAM.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Aging and Disability Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	1,000,000 - 1,350,000	1,000,000 - 1,350,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill increases eligibility for the Alzheimer's Respite Care program in the Department of Aging and Disability Services (ADS) and eliminates the requirement that it be operated within available appropriations. This is anticipated to result in additional annual program costs of between \$1,000,000 and \$1,350,000.

In FY 23, the program is anticipated to serve 668 caregivers with an average benefit of \$2,167. Currently, the ADS' state unit on aging manages the amount of services allocated to each enrollee in order not to exceed the program's appropriation. The elimination of the requirement that the program be operated within available appropriations may result in participants receiving additional benefits up to the statutory standard annual benefit of \$3,500¹ resulting in an additional cost of approximately \$1 million based on estimated FY 23

¹ While the statutory language includes a \$3,500 annual cap, the actual benefit amount is based on need. It may exceed the \$3,500 with proper approval based on ADS regulations up to \$7,500.

Primary Analyst: CG
Contributing Analyst(s):
Reviewer: NN

3/13/23

participation.

The bill increases the FY 24 annual income limit from \$55,561 to \$70,000 and increases the FY 24 annual liquid asset limit from \$147,715 to \$179,000. The number of caregivers in that income and asset range is not known. Each additional participant may be eligible for a respite benefit up to the annual cap of \$3,500. Estimating that 100 additional caregivers (representing a 15% increase) may participate, it would result in additional annual program costs of \$350,000.

The bill appropriates \$1 million to the Alzheimer's disease respite care program within the ADS to support expanded access to the program.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of participants.

*Sources: Department of Administrative Services, Digest of Administrative Reports
Department of Aging and Disability Services, Testimony*