

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5514

AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	81,500	103,100
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	31,300	41,700
Mental Health & Addiction Serv., Dept.; Department of Developmental Services; Social Services, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill expands the nursing board's oversight of nursing schools, resulting in a General Fund cost of \$112,800 in FY 27 and \$144,800 annually thereafter, and removes certain nonprofit provider salary caps, resulting in potential costs beginning in FY 27, as described below. The bill makes other, minor changes that have no fiscal impact.

Sections 9 and 10 expand the Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Nursing's oversight of nursing schools to include: (1) evaluating certain data on licensure examination rates; and (2) requiring corrective action for low-performing schools, resulting in a cost to the Department

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 41.82% of payroll in FY 27.

of Public Health (DPH) of \$81,500 in FY 27, and \$103,100 annually thereafter to support the workload of these additional duties.

DPH requires a full-time nurse consultant beginning in FY 27² with an annualized salary of \$99,800 (and \$41,700 fringe benefits) to oversee the enhanced monitoring required by the bill, including schools' performance and adherence to corrective action plans when the board has identified necessary corrective action.

Additionally, a one-time expense of \$4,200 in FY 27 provides a laptop and office supplies for the position. Ongoing other expenses beginning in FY 27³ associated with this position include \$2,100 annually in mileage reimbursement and \$1,200 for fleet maintenance to support weekly visitation to nursing schools in performance of their duties.

Section 12 may result in a cost to the state beginning in FY 27 associated with removing salary cost caps for purposes of contracting with certain providers.

Currently, when determining state payments to any organization or facility providing employment opportunities or day services, or services in a residential facility to persons referred there by the state, state statute limits the total cost allowance for the associated director's salary. The same limitation applies when determining the amount of any Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services grant to provide services to mentally ill persons. The bill could therefore result in a cost to the state to the extent agencies consider higher salary costs when contracting for relevant services.

The Out Years

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

² FY 27 salary is \$74,900 (and \$31,300 fringe benefits) with an assumed start date of October 1, 2026.

³ FY 27 ongoing other expenses include \$1,600 for mileage reimbursement and \$800 for fleet maintenance with an assumed start date of October 1, 2026.