

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5519

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ON-SITE WASTEWATER SPECIALISTS AND WATER OPERATOR APPRENTICES.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	58,200	72,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	22,600	30,100

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes an apprenticeship program for certain water operators, resulting in a General Fund cost of \$80,800 in FY 27 and \$102,100 annually thereafter as described below. The bill additionally establishes certification for wastewater specialists, which has no fiscal impact as there are no associated fees.

Section 6 requires the Department of Public Health (DPH), in consultation with the Department of Labor and an international nonprofit association dedicated to the improvement of drinking water, to develop and implement an apprenticeship program for certain water

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.

operators.

DPH requires a health program associate with an annualized salary of \$72,000 (and \$30,100 fringe benefits) to coordinate and administer the new training program, with partial-year costs in FY 27 and full-year costs beginning in FY 28.² An additional one-time Other Expenses cost of \$4,200 in FY 27 will provide a laptop and office supplies for the new position.

The Out Years

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

² In FY 27, salary costs will be \$54,000 (and \$22,600 fringe benefits), reflecting an October 1, 2026 start date.