

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sSB-500

AN ACT CONCERNING A STATE-FUNDED CAREGIVER PROGRAM TO ASSIST PARENTS OF PERSONS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ENROLLED IN A MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAM.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Social Services (DSS) associated with creating a state-funded respite program to support caregivers of individuals with autism spectrum disorder who are enrolled in the Medicaid Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) waiver program. The cost will depend on funds appropriated to the program and additional staff and resources needed to operate the program.

For reference, the most recent Autism Waiver Waitlist report (April 2025) reported that there were 2,249 individuals on the waitlist, 217 individuals actively receiving services, and 140 individuals assigned a case manager and moving through the enrollment process.

The Out Years

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

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