

Office of the Behavioral Health Advocate

OBH39300

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
Insurance Fund	-	4	4	-	-	4	4

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Appropriation FY 25	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
Personal Services	-	-	387,000	-	-	387,000	387,000
Other Expenses	-	-	65,500	-	-	65,500	65,500
Other Current Expenses							
Fringe Benefits	-	-	401,000	-	-	401,000	401,000
Indirect Overhead	-	-	22,500	-	-	22,500	22,500
Agency Total - Insurance Fund	-	-	876,000	-	-	876,000	876,000

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27

Policy Revisions

Maintain the Office of the Behavioral Health Advocate

Personal Services	(387,000)	(387,000)	-	-	387,000	387,000
Other Expenses	(65,500)	(65,500)	-	-	65,500	65,500
Fringe Benefits	(401,000)	(401,000)	-	-	401,000	401,000
Indirect Overhead	(22,500)	(22,500)	-	-	22,500	22,500
Total - Insurance Fund	(876,000)	(876,000)	-	-	876,000	876,000
Positions - Insurance Fund	(4)	(4)	-	-	4	4

Background

The Office of the Behavioral Health Advocate (OBH) was established by Sections 10 and 11 of PA 23-101, *An Act Concerning the Mental, Physical and Emotional Wellness of Children*. The office's responsibilities are to: (1) assist mental and behavioral health care providers with receiving payments for claims submitted to health carriers for services provided to covered patients, and (2) assist residents with accessing mental and behavioral health care and related resources. One of the four positions, the Behavioral Health Advocate, originally funded in FY 24 has been filled.

Governor

Eliminate OBH as a separate agency and transfer one position, the Behavioral Health Advocate, and funding of \$257,544 in both FY 26 and FY 27 from OBH to the Office of the Healthcare Advocate (OHA). Eliminate the remaining three positions in OBH and funding of \$618,456 in both FY 26 and FY 27.

Legislative

Maintain OBH as a separate agency and do not transfer any positions or funding from OBH to OHA. Do not eliminate any positions or funding in OBH.

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
FY 25 Appropriation - IF	876,000	876,000	876,000	876,000	-	-
Policy Revisions	(876,000)	(876,000)	-	-	876,000	876,000
Total Recommended - IF	-	-	876,000	876,000	876,000	876,000

Positions	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
FY 25 Appropriation - IF	4	4	4	4	-	-
Policy Revisions	(4)	(4)	-	-	4	4
Total Recommended - IF	-	-	4	4	4	4