



Legislative Council Staff
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Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 21-0867
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Hansen, Rep. Ransom
Date: August 2, 2021
Bill Status: Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: REMOTE SUPPORTS FOR ELDERLY, BLIND, AND DISABLED WAIVER

- Summary of Fiscal Impact:
- State Revenue
- State Expenditure
- State Transfer
- TABOR Refund
- Local Government
- Statutory Public Entity

Budget package bill. The bill authorizes the use of remote supports in the Medicaid Elderly, Blind, and Disabled waiver program. It decreases state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 21-210

Table with 4 columns: Category, Budget Year FY 2021-22, Out Year FY 2022-23, and Out Year FY 2022-23. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (General Fund, Cash Funds, Federal Funds, Total Expenditures), Transfers, and TABOR Refund.

Summary of Legislation

The bill authorizes the use of remote supports with Medicaid clients enrolled in the Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Elderly, Blind, and Disabled waiver.

Background

This change in law is associated with a FY 2021-22 budget request made by the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) and recommended by Joint Budget Committee staff for approval in the Long Bill. The request is for a funding reduction made possible by the incorporation of a remote support option into existing electronic monitoring services in several home and community-based services waivers. While all other waivers allow for this change under current law, the Elderly, Blind, and Disabled Waiver requires a change in law, as implemented by this bill. This transition requires approval from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, so implementation is planned for January 1, 2022.

Remote supports are an emerging service model that combines technology and direct care to support people with disabilities and reduces the use of in-person services. Examples of remote supports include monitors, sensors, and communication devices that allow attendants in a separate location to provide verbal prompts to members in their homes.

State Expenditures

The bills reduces expenditures in HCPF of \$380,673 in FY 2021-22, \$1,142,020 in FY 2022-23, and \$1,522,193 in FY 2023-24, when the program is fully implemented. The reductions consist of General Fund, cash funds, and federal funds, as shown in Table 1.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on April 30, 2021.

State Appropriations

For FY 2021-22, the bill requires the following reductions in appropriations in the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing:

- \$185,044 from the General Fund;
- \$5,292 from the Healthcare Affordability and Sustainability Fee Cash Fund; and
- \$190,337 from federal funds.

The reduction amounts shown here are a component of the reductions attributable to the Elderly, Blind, and Disabled waiver in HCPF' budget request R-06, which reduces expenditures across multiple waiver programs.

State and Local Government Contacts

Health Care Policy and Financing

Joint Budget Committee Staff