

## **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Final Fiscal Note**

| Drafting Number:<br>Prime Sponsors: | LLS 24-0913<br>Rep. Bird; Taggart<br>Sen. Bridges; Zenzinger   | Date:<br>Bill Status:<br>Fiscal Analyst: | July 10, 2024<br>Signed into Law<br>Kristine McLaughlin   303-866-4776<br>kristine.mclaughlin@coleg.gov |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Bill Topic:                         | MEDICAID PROVIDER SUSPENSION FOR ORGANIZED FRAUD   |  |   |
| Summary of<br>Fiscal Impact:        | ☐ State Revenue<br>☑ State Expenditure   | ☐ State Transfer<br>☐ TABOR Refund       | ☐ Local Government<br>☐ Statutory Public Entity   |
|                                     | The bill allows the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to suspend the enrollment of a provider in cases of alleged organized crime or fraud. The bill may minimally impact state expenditures on an ongoing basis. |  |   |
| Appropriation<br>Summary:           | No appropriation is required.  |  |   |
| Fiscal Note<br>Status:              | The final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill , which was recommended by the Joint Budget Committee.   |  |   |

## **Summary of Legislation**

The bill allows the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) to suspend a provider when the department identifies that the provider is participating in an alleged and ongoing organized crime or fraud scheme if the allegation is supported by at least three of several criteria listed in the bill. The department must notify the provider of the suspension in writing.

The initial suspension period is up to six months while HCPF conducts a review of the crime or fraud scheme, and may be extended by additional six month increments if the department documents in writing the need for extending the review. Upon completion of the review, HCPF must reinstate a provider's enrollment where it determines no crime or fraud scheme occurred.

## **State Expenditures**

Expenditures in HCPF may decrease as a result of suspending fraudulent providers. This impact is expected to be minimal under the following assumptions:

- most fraud is currently prevented at the claim level; and
- most clients will find a new provider in the event that their provider is suspended.

HCPF currently has staff and other resources dedicated to screening providers and investigating claims. In the event that a provider is suspended, workload will shift as these teams investigate fewer new claims and focus on providing the necessary documentation to suspend a provider and making a final determination.

Should the new fraud procedures result in significant changes to expenditures, whether in regards to services provided or fraud prevented, it is assumed that any adjustments to appropriations will be made through the annual budget process.

#### **Effective Date**

This bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on February 20, 2024

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Health Care Policy and Financing Information Technology Judicial

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the <u>General Assembly website</u>.