

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
01/14/2021

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2205

- 1 A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2019-2021 Biennium		2021-2023 Biennium		2023-2025 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures			\$249,600	\$249,600	\$249,600	\$249,600
Appropriations			\$249,600	\$249,600	\$249,600	\$249,600

- 1 B. **County, city, school district and township fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2019-2021 Biennium	2021-2023 Biennium	2023-2025 Biennium
Counties			
Cities			
School Districts			
Townships			

- 2 A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

SB2205 would require the Department of Human Services to cover costs related to medical interpreters needed for clients who have a hearing loss or clients who have limited English proficiency under the Medical Assistance program, including Medicaid Expansion.

- B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

Section 1 of SB2205 would require the Department of Human Services to cover costs related to medical interpreters needed for clients who have a hearing loss or clients who have limited English proficiency under the Medical Assistance program, including Medicaid Expansion.

DHS estimates that approximately 1% or about 768 recipients of the Traditional Medicaid population could potentially need the use of interpreter services at a minimum of ten occurrences over the course of a biennium at an estimated rate of \$65 per hour. The estimated cost for the 2021-2023 biennium is \$499,200, of which \$249,600 is general fund. The costs for interpretation services would be eligible for 50% federal administrative reimbursement under the Medicaid program.

Interpretation services is currently a covered service for the Medicaid Expansion program; therefore, no additional costs are estimated for this population.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

- A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

- B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

Section 1 of SB2205 would require the Department of Human Services to cover costs related to medical interpreters needed for clients who have a hearing loss or clients who have limited English proficiency under the Medical Assistance program, including Medicaid Expansion.

DHS estimates that approximately 1% or about 768 recipients of the Traditional Medicaid population could potentially need the use of interpreter services at a minimum of ten occurrences over the course of a biennium at an estimated rate of \$65 per hour. The estimated cost for the 2021-2023 biennium is \$499,200, of which \$249,600 is general fund. The costs for interpretation services would be eligible for 50% federal administrative reimbursement under the Medicaid program.

Interpretation services is currently a covered service for the Medicaid Expansion program; therefore, no additional costs are estimated for this population.

- C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

For the 2021-2023 biennium, the Department of Human Services would need an appropriation increase in the operating line of \$499,200, of which \$249,600 would be General Fund, to HB1012.

For the 2023-2025 biennium, the Department of Human Services would need an appropriation in the operating line of \$499,200, of which \$249,600 would be General Fund.

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