

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7972

BILL NUMBER: HB 1673

DATE PREPARED: Jan 19, 1999

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Home Health Aide Registry.

FISCAL ANALYST: Ron Sobecki

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FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the State Department of Health (SDOH) to include a home health aide who has successfully completed a state approved competency evaluation program in the Registry of Nurse Aides required by federal law. The bill requires the State Department of Health to establish procedures to investigate allegations of neglect, abuse, or misappropriation of property by a home health aide and to notify the registry of nurse aides of a proven allegation. It provides that a person who is denied or dismissed from employment by a home health agency because of a criminal history does not have certain rights, including the right to sue or to collect unemployment insurance. The bill also provides immunity to persons for denying or terminating employment of an individual with a criminal history or reporting to or participating in the proceedings of the State Department of Health or the Registry of Nurse Aides.

Effective Date: July 1, 1999.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The SDOH will need to hire one additional employee to comply with the requirements of this bill. The estimated cost of salary, fringe benefits, and indirect costs for this position is \$27,379 in FY 2000 and \$26,660 in FY 2001. There also could be an additional cost to the SDOH for the cost of administrative law judges for hearings for home health aides who have been accused of neglect, abuse, or misappropriation of property. The estimated cost of for the administrative law judges is \$11,000. There also will be an estimated cost of \$10,000 for computer system changes to add home health aides to the Registry of Nurse Aides.

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: (1) Existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; (2) Existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; (3) Authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; (4) Funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) New appropriations. The December 31, 1998, personnel manning table shows the SDOH with 99 vacancies. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend

upon legislative and administrative actions.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Department of Health.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Norma Selby, SDOH, 233-7673.