# **OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS**

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## HB-7103

AN ACT CONCERNING THE KATIE BECKETT WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS.

## **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	at least	at least
		\$300,000	\$100,000
State Comptroller - Fringe	GF - Cost	20,000	20,000
Benefits <sup>1</sup>			
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue	125,000	25,000
	Gain		

Note: GF=General Fund

#### Municipal Impact: None

## Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Social Services (DSS) of approximately \$300,000 in FY 26 and \$100,000 in FY 27 associated with developing a web portal as part of the Beckett Waiver Program Internet web site required by the bill, by 9/1/25.

Costs reflect anticipated technology expenses of \$250,000 in FY 26 and maintenance costs of approximately \$50,000 in FY 27 as well as staff costs of approximately \$50,000 each year (with associated fringe of \$20,000) to monitor and manage portal related requirements. The portal must enable individuals to participate in an initial screening process to determine eligibility for the waiver program, review information concerning the appropriateness of the waiver to meet the individual's

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26.

needs, receive periodic updates about rank on a waiting list and estimated time to receive such services, and check eligibility status for the program. The technology related costs are anticipated to be gross funded and eligible for federal reimbursement, resulting in a federal grants revenue gain of approximately \$125,000 in FY 26 and \$25,000 in FY 27.

The bill also changes the maximum age for individuals on the waiver from 21 to 18 years of age. As participants on the waiver are eligible for Medicaid services under HUSKY C after turning age 18, this creates a shift in program costs. To the extent the shift to HUSKY C creates an opening for individuals to be served on the waiver from the wait list earlier than they otherwise would have, DSS will incur related costs. For context, the average state cost per client is approximately \$25,500 annually.

#### The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to utilization of services on the Katie Beckett waiver.