OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200 Hartford, CT 06106 \diamond (860) 240-0200 http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa

HB-7117 AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INSURANCE FUND WORKING GROUP.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Fund-Effect | FY 26 \$ | FY 27 \$ |
|-------------------|--|--|
| GF - Cost | 2,556,000 | 5,111,000 |
| IF - Savings | 2,556,000 | 5,111,000 |
| GF - Cost | 2,877,000 | 5,754,000 |
| GF - Cost | 153,000 | 306,000 |
| | | |
| IF - Savings | 3,190,000 | 6,380,000 |
| IF - Revenue Loss | 5,746,000 | 11,491,000 |
| GF - Revenue | 2,556,000 | 5,111,000 |
| Gain | | |
| | GF - Cost IF - Savings GF - Cost GF - Cost IF - Savings IF - Revenue Loss GF - Revenue | GF - Cost 2,556,000 IF - Savings 2,556,000 GF - Cost 2,877,000 GF - Cost 153,000 IF - Savings 3,190,000 IF - Revenue Loss 5,746,000 GF - Revenue 2,556,000 |

Note: IF=Insurance Fund; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes changes to the funding streams of certain accounts currently funded by the Insurance Fund, with fiscal impacts as described below.

Section 1 transfers the public health fee revenue from the Insurance Fund to the General Fund over a five-year period, beginning in FY 26 and increasing by one-fifth annually thereafter, until the public health fee is fully transferred in FY 30. This results in an estimated revenue loss and savings of \$2,556,000 in FY 26 and \$5,111,000 in FY 27 to the

¹The 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.

Insurance Fund and a commensurate revenue gain and cost to the General Fund.²

The section does not change the public health fee (i.e., the Public Health Assessment), which is collected from health carriers. It is anticipated that the Department of Public Health accounts funded by this fee would be funded jointly by the Insurance and General Funds in FY 26 through FY 29 and then only by the General Fund beginning in FY 30.

Section 2 transfers all Insurance Fund expenditures for the Office of Health Strategy (OHS) to the General Fund in equal installments³ over a five-year period, which results in the following fiscal impacts.

The Insurance Fund will experience savings of approximately \$3.19 million in FY 26 and \$6.38 million in FY 27 resulting from OHS's funding moving to the General Fund. The Insurance Fund will experience matching revenue losses in each year through FY 30, as insurance companies will no longer be assessed for these costs.

Additionally, the General Fund will experience a cost of approximately \$2.88 million in FY 26 and \$5.75 million in FY 27 associated with the funding change. There is also an estimated cost of \$153,000 in FY 26 and \$306,000 in FY 27 to the State Comptroller associated with fringe benefits for OHS staff.⁴

The Out Years

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 28 \$ | FY 29 \$ | FY 30 \$ |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Public Health, | GF - Cost | 7,667,000 | 10,222,000 | 12,778,000 |
| Dept. | | | | |
| Public Health, | IF - Savings | 7,667,000 | 10,222,000 | 12,778,000 |
| Dept. | - | | | |

² Based on FY 25 appropriated public health fee revenue.

³ Assuming a 3% year-over-year increases to OHS's Insurance Fund costs.

⁴ The estimated fringe benefit rates are lower for employees paid out of the General Fund compared to those paid out of the Insurance Fund, so the cost to the Comptroller in the General Fund is less than the savings to OHS in the Insurance Fund.

| Office of Health | GF - Cost | 8,631,000 | 11,508,000 | 14,385,000 |
|------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Strategy | | | | |
| State | GF - Cost | 459,000 | 612,000 | 765,000 |
| Comptroller - | | | | |
| Fringe Benefits | | | | |
| Office of Health | IF - Savings | 9,570,000 | 12,760,000 | 15,950,000 |
| Strategy | | | | |
| Resources of the | IF - Revenue Loss | 17,237,000 | 22,982,000 | 28,728,000 |
| Insurance Fund | | | | |
| Resources of the | GF - Revenue | 7,667,000 | 10,222,000 | 12,778,000 |
| General Fund | Gain | | | |

Note: IF=Insurance Fund; GF=General Fund

The Section 1 fiscal impacts increase annually through FY 30, when the public health fee revenue has entirely moved to the General Fund.

All fiscal impacts in Section 2 will increase by the same magnitude as listed in FY 26 for the next five consecutive years (FY 30) until the agency is fully transitioned onto the General Fund.

Municipal Impact: None