

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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ADDENDUM

To Fiscal Note on
sHB-7106, File No. 518

AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS OF AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON WHEELCHAIR REPAIR.

The fiscal note on the underlying bill recognized an undefined cost to the Department of Social Services (DSS) associated with expanding Medicaid coverage for wheelchair repairs and related transportation, annual preventive maintenance, and certain delivery costs.

Approximately 2,460 members required repairs with costs in excess of \$1,000 in FY 24, resulting in an average cost of approximately \$2,290 per person for such repairs.¹ For context, if it is assumed these high-cost repairs would render the wheelchairs unusable and therefore require emergency repairs, and the bill results in a 10% increase in coverage, DSS would incur additional state costs of approximately \$280,000.

Additionally, based on the average non-emergency transportation cost per trip of approximately \$197.50, DSS would incur associated state costs of \$240,000 to transport members to a repair facility (\$480,000 if a return trip is also covered). If each member required a rental wheelchair,

¹ Based on FY 24 data, approximately 5,850 members required wheelchair repairs, totaling about \$7 million (state share of \$3.5 million).

DSS would experience additional state costs of approximately \$370,000.