

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2005

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 1161 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Central Registry/MH Beds/Invol. Comm.

SPONSOR(S): Senator Apodaca

	FISCAL IMPACT				
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2005-06</u>	<u>FY 2006-07</u>	<u>FY 2007-08</u>	<u>FY 2008-09</u>	<u>FY 2009-10</u>
REVENUES:	0	0	0	0	0
EXPENDITURES:	\$ 197,140	\$ 46,095	\$ 47,939	\$ 49,809	\$ 51,702
State	\$ 185,774	\$ 22,430	\$ 23,328	\$ 24,237	\$ 25,158
Local	\$ 11,367	\$ 23,665	\$ 24,612	\$ 25,572	\$ 26,543
POSITIONS (cumulative):	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Department of Health and Human Services: Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services					
EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2006					

BILL SUMMARY: The proposed legislation requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop and implement a central registry of available beds in mental health facilities to assist in the placement of individuals involuntarily committed to these facilities. The central registry may be automated and shall be available to law enforcement at all times. Requires area mental health programs, local management entities and contracts for mental health services to utilize the central registry to the extent of their involvement with the placement of involuntarily committed individuals.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Background:

This fiscal note assumes that the central registry of available beds in mental health facilities will be automated in order to ensure that it is updated daily and is readily available to law enforcement at all times.

Assumptions:

- A. Application Development of a Central Registry:** The Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (DMHDDSAS) has determined that the development of a web based central registry for involuntary commitment bed availability would have a one-time cost of \$175,000 in FY 2005-06. This one time cost includes programming and testing of the new system. Operational assumptions for the database for the central bed registry are as follows:
- a. Application will be web based.
 - b. Database would be viewable by the public, including law enforcement. Public data would include items such as provider, location, contact number and bed availability; no consumer specific data would be presented. Individuals viewing via public access would NOT be able to change the data.
 - c. Providers would be assigned unique access codes (login and passwords) in order to access only their facility specific data in order to update bed availability. There would be no consumer specific data contained in the database.
- B. DMHDDSAS Data Maintenance:** After the registry is operational, DMHDDSAS has determined that the data included in the system will need the following maintenance:
- a. Loading new data into system as new designated providers come online.
 - b. Deleting data from system when providers are no longer designated to accept involuntarily committed individuals.
 - c. Managing logon and password assignments to enable designated providers to update bed availability online.

DMHDDSAS has estimated that the annual cost of maintaining data for the central registry will be \$6,016 or 10% of an annual staff salary and benefits of \$60,160.

Fiscal Year	Data Maintenance Costs
2005-06	\$3,008
2006-07	\$6,263
2007-08	\$6,513
2008-09	\$6,767
2009-10	\$7,024

The estimate for FY 2005-06 is a six-month estimate since proposed legislation requires the central registry to be operational by January 1, 2006. Subsequent fiscal years assume standard salary inflation rates. The salary inflation rates are shown in Assumption E.

- C. DMHDDSAS Programming Maintenance:** After the registry is operational, DMHDDSAS has determined that the program for the central registry will need to be maintained to ensure that it is operational 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

DMHDDSAS has estimated that the annual cost of maintaining data for the central registry will cost \$3,292 or 5% of an annual staff salary and benefits of \$65,840.

Fiscal Year	Programming Maintenance Costs
2005-06	\$1,646
2006-07	\$3,427
2007-08	\$3,584
2008-09	\$3,703
2009-10	\$3,844

The estimate for FY 2005-06 is a six-month estimate since proposed legislation requires the central registry to be operational by January 1, 2006. Subsequent fiscal years assume standard salary inflation rates. The salary inflation rates are shown in Assumption E.

- D. Designated Provider Updates:** In order to maintain the central registry, DMHDDSAS has assumed that staff at facilities designated to accept involuntary committed individuals will enter data updates in the web based application rather than sending the information into the DMHDDSAS central office. Each facility would have password access to the online system in order to update data for their specific facility.

DMHDDSAS has estimated that it would take 30 minutes every other day for each provider agency to update their information (bed availability) online in the database. The time estimate includes securing bed information, logging on to the web based system and updating the information. DMHDDSAS has assumed the data will be updated every other day because bed utilization will not change every day. DMHDDSAS has estimated that the provider updates will have an annual cost of \$1,399 per provider or 4.4% of an annual staff salary and benefits of \$31,798.

DMHDDSAS has estimated that there will be 60 facilities designated to accept involuntary committed individuals. State government, local governments, federal government, and the private sector operate the facilities. DMHDDSAS has estimated the following distribution of facilities:

Facility Type	Percent of Total
State	14.58%
Local	27.08%
Federal	10.42%
Private	47.92%
Total	100.00%

For the purposes of this fiscal note, only the costs for state and local government providers have been included in the final calculations. The table below shows the annual cost for all providers:

Fiscal Year	State Facilities	Local Facilities	Federal Facilities	Private Facilities
2005-06	\$6,120	\$11,367	\$4,374	\$20,119
2006-07	\$12,741	\$22,430	\$9,106	\$41,876
2007-08	\$13,250	\$23,328	\$9,470	\$43,551
2008-09	\$13,767	\$24,237	\$9,839	\$45,250
2009-10	\$14,290	\$25,158	\$10,213	\$46,969

The estimate for FY 2005-06 is a six-month estimate since proposed legislation requires the central registry to be operational by January 1, 2006. Subsequent fiscal years assume standard salary inflation rates. The salary inflation rates are shown in Assumption E.

E. Salary and Benefits Inflation Rates: The Fiscal Research Division uses the following inflation rates when calculating the annual growth in salary and benefits. These estimated rates are based on data from Economy.com.

Fiscal Year	Salary and Benefits Inflation Rates
2005-06	4.2%
2006-07	4.1%
2007-08	4.0%
2008-09	3.9%
2009-10	3.8%

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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DATE: July 6, 2005

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