

# Department of Planning and Budget

## 2002 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB658

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed  
**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Devolites

3. **Committee:** Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. **Title:** Criminal background check; substance abuse treatment professionals.

5. **Summary/Purpose:** This bill would permit community services boards, behavioral health authorities, and agencies licensed by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRAS) to hire for adult substance abuse treatment programs persons who are convicted of a broader list of crimes: assault and bodily wounding; robbery; threat; burglary; any felony violation relating to the possession or distribution of drugs; or abuse and neglect of children, including failing to secure medical attention for an injured child. The hiring provider must determine that the criminal behavior was related to the applicant's use of substances and that the person has been successfully rehabilitated.

6. **No Fiscal Impact.**

7. **Budget amendment necessary:** No.

8. **Fiscal implications:** This bill expands the current exemption to the list of offenses that preclude individuals from employment in adult substance abuse treatment facilities. Current statute states that the hiring provider, based on a screening assessment, must determine that the applicants have been successfully rehabilitated and are not a risk to consumers based on the criminal history background and substance use, abuse or addiction history of the applicant. Existing statute also requires the applicant to pay the screening assessment cost unless the hiring entity decides to pay the cost. With this bill, it is possible there will be additional applicants for which the screening assessment would be needed. There will be no increase in screening assessment costs since these are borne by the applicant.

9. **Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, Community Services Boards, Behavioral Health Authorities.

10. **Technical amendment necessary:** No.

11. **Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 1/18/02/jlv

**Document:** G:\02-04\Efis02\Hb658.Doc Janet Vogelgesang

cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources