

Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB140

House of Origin X Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Edwards

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: **Training of persons conducting independent examinations.**

5. Summary: Training of persons conducting independent examinations. Requires the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to develop and implement a program for the training of persons conducting independent examinations and requires persons to be certified as having completed the training program before conducting independent examinations.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: None

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed language requires training and certification for independent evaluators (IE) at least annually which would help to ensure consistency and timely dissemination of new methodologies. Costs to develop and implement an annual training program could be absorbed within existing resources based on costs being recouped through program fees charged to participants.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, Community Services Boards

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: SB499, the comprehensive mental health reform bill, contains similar language requiring evaluators to be certified.

Date: 1/14/2008

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cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources