

Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 1847

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Helsel, Gordon C. Jr.

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title: Public assistance; eligibility determinations

5. Summary: The proposed legislation allows the Commissioner of the State Department of Social Services (DSS), when necessary to overcome backlogs in the application and renewal process, to temporarily employ other entities to receive and process applications for public assistance, conduct periodic eligibility renewals, and perform other tasks associated with eligibility determinations. The bill also directs local departments of social services and the Commissioner to perform certain tasks related to eligibility determinations that are currently delegated to local boards of social services.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Is Indeterminate: See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill would not technically need a budget amendment as it allows, does not require, the Commissioner to employ other entities to perform tasks associated with eligibility determination. However, it should be noted that any time this added discretion is employed and DSS takes on eligibility determination activities that were being handled by local departments unbudgeted resources would have to be utilized. There is no funding appropriated at DSS for the state to conduct eligibility determination; therefore, any such expenditures would require the department to divert resources from other state or local activities.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department of Social Services
Local departments of Social Services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 1/23/15