

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 1449

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

2. Patron: Guzman

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title: Family and Individual Support Waiver; reduce or eliminate the waiting list

5. Summary: The proposed legislation directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to take measures to reduce or eliminate the Family and Individual Support (FIS) waiver waiting list for individuals who meet the priority one criteria.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation requires DMAS to “take measures” to reduce or eliminate the FIS waiting list for individuals with priority one needs. It is assumed that any such measures would be implemented without significant costs since the bill does not call for any specific actions, such as creating new waiver slots. Moreover, DMAS cannot add slots without specific authority being granted.

While this statement does not identify a cost associated with enacting this bill, the following estimate is provided to illustrate the potential fiscal impact of eliminating the current priority one waitlist. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services does not track individuals based on what waiver they may need or receive; however, the agency assumes that approximately 63 percent of the priority one wait list will be best served by a FIS waiver. This assumption is based on preference surveys given to those currently on the waitlist and the services utilized by individuals receiving slots in the current biennium. The total priority one waitlist, as of January 1, 2018, was 3,051. Therefore, it is assumed that the FIS waiver waitlist for individuals who meet priority one criteria is 1,923. Assuming the average annual cost of services for a FIS waiver is \$30,650, it is estimated that the total cost of serving the entire waitlist population is \$58,939,950, half of this amount would be supported with federal revenue. In addition, it is assumed that the waitlist will continue to grow as the likelihood of receiving services through that waiver increases. Again, this estimate is provided for demonstrative purposes, any specific effort to eliminate the FIS waitlist should receive further analysis and must include offsets associated with utilization of other waivers (i.e. EDCD) and funding provided in the introduced budget.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:
Department of Medical Assistance Services

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None