

PREPARED BY: Liz Hruska
 DATE PREPARED: March 29, 2011
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LB 543

Revision: 02

Revised based on amendments adopted through 3-28-11

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *				
	FY 2011-12		FY 2012-13	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See Below		See Below	

*Does not include any impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a state outreach plan to promote access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The department shall partner with one or more counties or nonprofit organizations. If HHS contracts with a nonprofit organization, the organization would be responsible for seeking funding for the development and implementation of the outreach plan and may specify that any costs to the department associated with the award and management of the contract or implementation or administration of the state outreach plan be paid out of private or federal funds. The department is required to submit the state outreach plan to the U. S. Department of Agriculture on or before August 11, 2011. The department is exempt from implementing or administering the state outreach plan but not from developing it if it does not receive private or federal funds sufficient to cover the department's costs associated with the implementation of the plan including costs associated with an increase in the caseload. The bill has the emergency clause.

The development of the state outreach plan would be done with current department resources. Implementation of the plan would depend on whether or not there were counties or non-profit organizations that would pay for the costs associated with the plan either through private funds for seeking federal funds.

This bill, as amended, requires the Department of Health and Human Services to create a TANF-funded program or policy which maximizes the number of residents being served by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and does not increase the current gross income eligibility limit. The policy would include elimination of most asset tests for eligibility for SNAP, except for amounts over \$25,000 in checking and savings accounts. This requirement is only effective if the department receives federal funds to cover the program or policy costs. The program or policy is to be created on or before October 1, 2011.

There is no general fund impact. The increase in clients with the removal of most of the asset tests would be small and can be handled within existing agency resources. Federal TANF block grants could be used for other policy or program activity.

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FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL

2011

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

State Agency or Political Subdivision Name:(2) Department of Health and Human Services

Prepared by: (3) Willard Bouwens

Date Prepared:(4) March 10, 2011

Phone: (5) 471-8072

*Willard Bouwens
by Don Albert*

FY 2011-2012

FY 2012-2013

	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See Below	See Below	See Below	See Below

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

Since gross income eligibility limits will not change, the possible increase in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) clients would be small enough that additional Social Service Workers would not be required. It is anticipated that no additional general funds would be used to carry out this bill. A small amount of TANF block grant funds may be needed to fund a TANF-approved informational pamphlet program, depending on what activity would be approved for use.

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

PERSONAL SERVICES:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2011-2012 EXPENDITURES	2012-2013 EXPENDITURES
	11-12	12-13		
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....				
Capital Outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital Improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			See Above	See Above