

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1605

Caregivers for Adults

SPONSOR(S): Brutus

TIED BILLS:

IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 2630

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Elder & Long-Term Care Committee	_____	Weyand	Liem
2) Health Care Appropriations Committee	_____	_____	_____
3) Health & Families Council	_____	_____	_____
4) _____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

HB 1605 creates the Seniors Offering Services program.

Seniors Offering Services is created as an independent, not-for-profit corporation within the Department of Elderly Affairs. The bill provides purposes for the program.

This bill may have a fiscal impact on the Department of Elder Affairs.

The bill takes effect July, 1 2005.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

- Provide Limited Government --- HB 1605 creates an independent, not-for profit corporation within the Department of Elderly Affairs. Depending on the mandated level of Department involvement the bill may require the implementation of one or several new full time equivalent employees (FTEs).
- Safeguard Individual Liberty --- HB 1605 provides for fostering the development of training and employment opportunities for economically disadvantaged workers 55 years of age and older. The bill also provides to assist in preventing premature institutional placement through in-home companion care services.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Seniors Offering Services Program

The bill creates the Seniors Offering Services program as an independent, not-for-profit organization within the Department of Elderly Affairs (DOEA).

The bill provides the following purposes for the Seniors Offering Services program:

- To foster the development of training and employment opportunities for economically disadvantaged workers 55 years of age and older that are critical to the provision of community-based and institutional care for frail and vulnerable adults who live in the community.
- To assist in meeting the growing demand for in-home companion care services and prevent costly premature institutional placement.
- To become a direct referral resource for DOEA.

The bill does not provide information for implementation of these purposes.

Current Related Programs

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) is currently within DOEA. The SCSEP serves unemployed, low-income persons who are 55 and older and who have poor employment prospects by placing them in part-time community service positions and by assisting them to transition to unsubsidized employment.

The purposes of the SCSEP are:

- To foster and promote useful part-time opportunities in community service activities for unemployed low-income persons who are 55 years of age and older and have poor employment prospects.
- To foster individual income economic self-sufficiency.
- To increase the number of older persons who may enjoy the benefits of unsubsidized employment in both the public and private sectors.

The SCSEP is funded under Title V of the Older Americans Act and is administered by the U.S. Department of Labor.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Creates the Seniors Offering Services program as an independent, not-for-profit corporation within DOEA.

Section 2. Provides that the bill will take effect on July, 1 2005.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

Indeterminate, sufficient information is not provided in the original draft of the bill. [see D. FISCAL COMMENTS]

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

This bill may have fiscal impact on DOEA. According to DOEA the level of mandated involvement required could call for one or several new FTEs. Staff may need to be involved in activities such as outreach and recruitment, eligibility determination, development of training agreements, payment to training institutions, testing and certifications, supportive services, administrative oversight, etc. Some funding may also be required to maintain a database/registry of trained workers.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds. This bill does not reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities. This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities have to raise revenue.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES