



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 613

PRINTERS NO. 2189

PRIME SPONSOR: Vance

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Senate Bill 613, Printer's Number 2189 amends the Human Services Code to permit expansion of the Human Services Block Grant Program. This legislation is effective July 1, 2017 except as noted in the Analysis.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the Human Services Code to remove the statutory cap of 30 counties that are permitted to participate in the Human Services Block Grant Program. Removal of the cap will permit all counties to voluntarily participate in the program after receiving approval from the Department of Human Services (DHS). County child welfare special grants are removed from the definition of "County-based human services" and will no longer be included in the Human Services Block Grant Program.

SB 613 requires that the Human Services Block Grant Program application must be adopted by a majority of the governing body in the county prior to submission to DHS. In addition to the existing factors under consideration in approving a county's participation in the program, SB 613 requires DHS to also consider a county's history of human services fiscal management and the county's history of compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements regarding operation of its human services programs.

This legislation requires DHS to issue instructions for the annual submission of county block grant plans for the next fiscal year no later than March 1 of each year and counties shall be allowed to submit revised plans following enactment of the General Appropriations Act for the current fiscal year. DHS must issue instructions for the completion of required county reports no later than August 31 of each year following the fiscal year for the report.

DHS must consult with a statewide association representing counties to select the data elements and outcome measures to be included in county plans beginning with the report for fiscal year 2018-2019 and must review and update the data elements and outcome measures at least every four years. This provision of SB 613 is effective immediately.

DHS may withhold, recover, or reduce by 5% or less the allocation for any county that does not timely file a complete report or plan as required. The funds are withheld until a complete plan or report is submitted. DHS has the authority to require submission and implementation of an acceptable corrective action plan or terminate participation in the program for a violation of this article.

The date of the annual Human Services Block Grant Program report from DHS to the General Assembly is changed from November 30 to December 15.

Counties must submit their annual Human Services Block Grant plan to its human services advisory boards for their review and comment prior to submission to DHS. The plan must be submitted to DHS no later than May 1 each year. Counties must also receive prior approval from DHS for any change in expenditure level of a county-based human service of 10% or more from their annual plan submission. A county must provide written notice to DHS at least 30 days prior to the end of the state fiscal year if the county intends to opt out of the program. Required reports must be submitted by counties no later than September 30 of each year following the fiscal year of the report.

Finally, the reinvestment percentage is increased from 3% to 5%.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no adverse fiscal impact related to passage of this legislation.

PREPARED BY: Ann Bertolino
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: October 25, 2016

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.