

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 615

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

2. Patron: Pillion

3. Committee: -

4. Title: State plan for medical assistance services; payment for certified community health workers

5. Summary: The amended bill requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to convene a work group to design a community health worker services benefit for Medicaid-enrolled and CHIP-enrolled beneficiaries. The work group must consider the reimbursement methodology for the benefit, the services to be included in the benefit, the educational and training requirements community health workers must possess to furnish the benefit, and other considerations. The work group must complete its work and submit a report by December 1, 2024. The report must include the estimated cost of the benefit and any additional legislative authority required to implement the benefit.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, See Item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, See Item 8.

Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2024	-	-
2025	\$125,000 \$125,000	General Nongeneral
2026	-	-
2027	-	-
2028	-	-
2029	-	-
2030	-	-

8. Fiscal Implications: Convening a workgroup composed of the required representatives is not expected to have any significant costs. However, DMAS maintains that the bill’s requirement to “design a certified community health worker services benefit for Medicaid-enrolled and CHIP-enrolled beneficiaries” will require effort and expertise that is not available within existing agency resources. DMAS reports that this requirement would necessitate the development of services, protocols, and cost projections associated with a community health worker benefit. This would also include the development of actuarially sound rates for capitation and fee-for-service programs. Based on previous experiences,

DMAS estimates that this bill would require one-time administrative funding of approximately \$250,000 (\$125,000 general fund) to procure the expertise, including actuarial services for rate development, necessary to develop this benefit within the timeframe required in the bill.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department of Medical Assistance Services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: This bill is a companion to HB 594.