

# Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

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## *FISCAL NOTE*

Date: Updated 4/14/14

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### **S. 252 – An act relating to financing for Green Mountain Care As passed by the House Committee on Health Care**

S. 252 as introduced by Senator Galbraith was a bill addressing financing for Green Mountain Care. The Senate passed the bill as a strike-all amendment which no longer contained revenues for the purpose of funding Green Mountain Care, although the title of the bill remains. The House Health Care Committee further amended the bill.

Fiscal impacts on the SFY'15 budget:

#### Sec. 21 – Vermont Family Based Approach Pilot

The bill calls for the Agency of Human Resources (AHS), through the Integrated Family Services initiative, and in partnership with the Vermont Center for Children, Youth and Families at the University of Vermont, to implement the “Vermont Family Based Approach” pilot in one region of the state to the extent that agency resources are available. According to an e-mail from Secretary Doug Racine (dated 4/10/14) to Representative Martha Health, AHS feels “although rolling this out will take money for training, consultation, follow-up and evaluation” no appropriation is needed. *See e-mail on other side of this document.*

*SFY'15 Fiscal Impact = No appropriations needed*

#### Sec. 30 – Financial Impacts of Health Care Reform

This section requires the Secretary of Administration to consult with the Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) in developing and selecting data, assumptions, analytic models, and other work related to the cost of Green Mountain Care, health spending estimates, and the costs and saving estimates from current health care reform initiatives. It requires the Secretary of Administration to present the analysis to the general assembly and for the Joint Fiscal Office to evaluate the analysis and indicate areas of agreement and disagreement with the data, assumptions, and results.

*SFY'15 Fiscal Impact = the analysis will be part of the on-going work of the administration and the JFO. A request for funding has been included in the SFY'15 budget for this and other related work.*

On Thu, Apr 10, 2014 at 5:58 PM, Racine, Doug <[doug.racine@state.vt.us](mailto:doug.racine@state.vt.us)> wrote:  
Martha,

Melissa Bailey, Monica Hutt and I have been working with George on finding language that works for all involved and we are getting close. In a nutshell, we are focusing the ACEs work on a pilot of sorts in Addison County and making it part of the IFS implementation, which, as you recall, is the first IFS site. We feel that no appropriation is needed, although rolling this out will take money for training, consultation, follow-up and evaluation.

The language we are developing says something to the effect of "within available funds." Possible sources include:

- Free time from Dr. Hudziak (sp?)
- Investment of training money by Counseling Services of Addison Co. (CSAC)
- Investment by CSAC of possible savings from successful implementation of IFS model, to be determined at close of fiscal year
- Possible grant funding from application by IFS to CMS to be determined sometime this summer
- Allocation of existing prevention funds in DCF, DMH and VDH

This is obviously not tight and needs a lot of pieces to fall into place, but I am committed to working to develop the funding needed to get this initiative off the ground. Connecting it to IFS in Addison Co. makes it consistent with other AHS initiatives. The design envisioned in the new language makes it possible to phase in the work if the resources are limited.

I am hopeful that we can make progress, however constrained, this year. The ACEs work is impressive and will add another tool in the work AHS does with prevention and services for children and their families.

I would be happy to talk with you and your committee if you wish.

Thank you.

Doug

Sent from my iPad