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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Fajardo ORIGINAL DATE 02/10/14
 LAST UPDATED _____ HJM 20

SHORT TITLE Home Care Recipient Safety SB _____

ANALYST Armstrong

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 88, SB 14

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

No Response From

Department of Health (DOH)

Human Services Department (HSD)

Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 20 requests that DOH convene a task force to identify an infrastructure for oversight and regulation of home care agencies to ensure the safety of home care recipients and caregivers. The joint memorial also requests that DOH invite representatives from HSD, ALTSD, state and national associations for home care agencies, and long-term services recipients and advocates to participate in the task force. The task force is requested to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee by November 1, 2014.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The joint memorial does not include an appropriation. The agencies asked to convene or participate in the task force would do so with existing resources.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the joint memorial, some home care agencies are not licensed or regulated by DOH, meaning that the department does not provide oversight and that such agencies may not be required to provide adequate training. Moreover, individuals and families seeking home care services often have little means of ascertaining the skills or knowledge that a caregiver has to offer. Finally, the joint memorial states that, without adequate training or oversight, both home care recipients and caregivers may be at risk.

RELATIONSHIP

HB 88 creates a voluntary certification procedure for individuals providing professional direct home care services in a residential setting for pay.

SB 14 creates a certification, course of study, and discipline for individuals providing professional direct home care services in a residential setting for pay.

JA/svb