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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Ortiz y Pino DATE TYPED 2/02/05 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Public Assistance Applicant Disclosure SB 204

ANALYST Weber

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	none				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Conflicts with HB 608

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

- Human Services Department (HSD)
- Department of Health (DOH)
- Aging and Long Term Care Services Department (ALTCD)
- Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 204 would require applicants for health care benefits under the Public Assistance Act funded by the state, or requesting uncompensated care in a hospital in the state to identify the employer of the proposed beneficiary. If the proposed beneficiary is unemployed, that individual must identify the employer of an adult who is responsible for providing all or some of their financial support.

By July 31 of each year, HSD, DOH, ALTSD, CYFD and other health and human services departments and state agencies would be required to provide to the LFC a report identifying all employers identified through this process who employ twenty-five or more public health program beneficiaries. The reporting agencies would be required to include the employer and all of its subsidiaries at all locations within the state, by name, name of subsidiary, location, total number of the employer or subsidiary's employees and dependents enrolled in each state-funded

health care program and the total cost to the state of providing public health care benefits for the employees and enrolled dependents of each named employer. This report would also be made available to the public.

Significant Issues

Human Services reports.

At present, applicants for Medicaid, if employed, are required to name their employer for purposes of determining and verifying income. If an applicant is unemployed, and an adult, there is currently no requirement that they identify an adult who is responsible for providing all or some of their financial support, much less that individual's employer. In most cases involving adult applicants, it is doubtful that another adult is legally responsible for providing financial support.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The participating agencies indicate some cost should be expected in altering data base applications and collecting the required data. Human Services reports an estimated cost in excess of \$500 thousand combined state and federal.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

It is uncertain what if any action the Legislative Finance Committee is to do with the information.

MW/yr:lg