



SF 484 – Dependent Adult Taskforce Recommendations (LSB2692SV)
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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

Senate File 484 establishes regulatory requirements involving boarding homes and dependent adults. A boarding home is a premises used by an owner or lessee for the purpose of renting rooms to three or more persons not related to the owner or lessee where supervision or assistance with activities of daily living is provided.

Senate File 484 requires the owner or lessee of a boarding home to register with and submit occupancy rates to the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA). If an allegation of a violation by the boarding home is reported regarding the care or safety of an individual living in a boarding home, then a coordinated, interagency approach is required to respond to the allegations. The interagency team may involve the DIA, the Department of Human Services (DHS), the State Fire Marshall, the Division of Criminal Investigations (DCI), the Department of Public Safety (DPS), or other local, State, or federal agencies. If it is determined that the case involves various labor and employment matters, the DIA is required to refer that portion to the Department of Workforce Development.

The Bill increases the period of time that information determined to be unfounded is held from one year to five years. Senate File 484 establishes the Dependant Adult Protective Advisory Council to recommend a uniform assessment instrument and process to determine the level of dependency of the adult and whether abuse has occurred.

The Bill also creates a Medicaid Fraud account in the General Fund under the authority of the DIA. Moneys from penalties received as a result of prosecutions that are not credited to the Medical Assistance Program may be credited to this Account. Moneys credited to this Account will not revert to any other account or fund. This Account may be used by the DIA and other agencies for costs incurred while providing regulation or responding to allegations.

Background

This Bill is in response to alleged violations at a boarding home for mentally retarded men in Atalissa, Iowa. A taskforce was formed at the request of the Governor to examine the response of State Departments to abuse allegations of dependant adults.

Assumptions

- It is unknown how many cases will be submitted to the State for examination. Over a two-month period since the Atalissa allegations, the DIA received eight cases. The DIA is expecting to begin a public awareness campaign about adult abuse that could increase the number of incidents reported.

- Based on recent experience the DIA expects the cost per case to be \$11,000. This includes in-take processing, investigation preparation, travel, or report writing and review, and enforcement action. This does not include any appeals, civil, or criminal investigations that may occur as a result of enforcement action.
- The Department of Human Services and the Department of Public Safety expect minimal fiscal impact.

Fiscal Impact

The number of investigations that will be conducted is unknown at this time. The estimated cost per case would be \$11,000 for DIA with additional minimal costs for DHS and DPS. This does not include any cost estimates for appeals, or civil or criminal investigations.

Sources

Department of Elder Affairs
Department of Human Services
Department of Inspections and Appeals
Department of Public Safety

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

April 14, 2009

The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the correctional and minority impact statements were prepared pursuant to [Section 2.56, Code of Iowa](#). Data used in developing this fiscal note, including correctional and minority impact information, is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.
