



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: HB0601.01: Create online portal for community assisters related to Medicaid

Primary Sponsor: SJ Howell

Status: As Introduced

☐ Included in the Executive Budget ☒ Needs to be included in HB 2 ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact
☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts ☒ Technical Concerns ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
Expenditures				
General Fund (01)	\$97,130	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue (03)	\$617,130	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenues				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue (03)	\$617,130	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact	<u>(\$97,130)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
General Fund Balance				

Description of fiscal impact

HB 601 proposes the establishment of an online portal to assist individuals applying for Medicaid coverage in Montana. The portal would allow designated community assisters to help applicants with various aspects of the application process. Associated costs relate to the development and implementation of the online portal.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

Department of Public Health and Human Services (department)

Technology Services Division(TSD)

- TSD requires \$650,000 (5,200 hours at \$125/hour) in contracted services from the enrollment & eligibility system vendor to enhance the Self-Service Portal (SSP) with the following:
 - Medicaid Community Assister login and dashboard to perform client actions (including client case request workflow with approval).
 - Client SSP screen for managing authorized assister access.
 - Client SSP screen for viewing pending case actions.
 - Existing SSP functionality covers the remaining bill requirements.
- TSD requires purchase of \$54,000 (300 hours at \$180/hour) in expert service time from the State Information Technology Services Division (SITSD) to create screens to allow an individual to request to be an authorized representative and for a state user to verify and approve.

Human and Community Services Division (HCSD)

1. Additional staff time is needed to test the functionality of the portal to ensure it meets requirements. HCSD would require \$10,260 in overtime to be paid to the two existing system testers (354 hours at \$28.98/hour). Overtime is based on the 10 % of the enrollment & eligibility vendor system development hours (3,536 development hours X 10% = 354 hours).

Fiscal Analysis Table

Department of Public Health and Human Services

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
<u>Fiscal Impact</u>				
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Personal Services	\$10,260	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$704,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Expenditures	\$714,260	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Funding of Expenditures</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$97,130	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue (03)	\$617,130	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Funding of Expenditures	\$714,260	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Revenues</u>				
Federal Special Revenue (03)	\$617,130	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Revenues	\$617,130	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures)</u>				
General Fund (01)	(\$97,130)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue (03)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Technical Concerns

1. The bill requires a community assister to have access to a Medicaid member/applicant online portal to view information related to a member's case. To do this, a community assister requires authorized representative permissions, granted by the member, to view eligibility information (i.e., income, residency), correspondence, documentation and updates on the member's case. This type of access would require authorization from the member according to 42 CFR 435.923.


Sponsor's Initials

2/26/25
Date


Budget Director's Initials

2/25/2025
Date