



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: SB0448.01: Generally revise laws related to payments made by health carriers

Primary Sponsor: Vince Ricci 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)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenues				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
General Fund Balance	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Description of fiscal impact

SB 448 requires prompt payment of health care claims by health carriers in Montana. There is no fiscal impact to the state.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

1. SB 448 requires prompt payment of health care claims by health carriers in Montana. It establishes requirements for timely payments, defines "clean claims," outlines procedures for handling claims, and provides enforcement authority by the State Auditor's Office and the Department of Justice.

Department of Administration

2. Although there is not a direct fiscal impact to the Department of Administration's Health Care and Benefits Division, other costs could arise if the third-party provider for the State Health Benefits Plan needs to update systems, or hire staff, to comply with the claim adjudication requirements in the bill.

Department of Justice

3. There is no fiscal impact to the Legal Services Division from this proposed legislation as SB 448 does not apply to the Appellate Services, Civil Services, Office of Consumer Protection, or the Prosecution Services Divisions.

State Auditor's Office

4. The requirements within SB 448 could cause an increase in enforcement on the part of the State Auditor's Office (SAO). However, the office can cover the additional enforcement activities with existing staff.
5. SB 448 provides the SAO with the authority to impose administrative fees, restitution, or any other remedy available under state law, for non-compliance with this bill. This revenue would be deposited to the general fund.

6. The SAO is not able to estimate the additional assessments and collections that may be received.

Sponsor's Initials

Date



Budget Director's Initials

3/4/2025
Date