FISCAL NOTE

Requested by Legislative Council 01/14/2021

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2205

1 A. **State fiscal effect:** Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.

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	2019-2021 Biennium		2021-2023 Biennium		2023-2025 Biennium			
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds		
Revenues								
Expenditures			\$249,600	\$249,600	\$249,600	\$249,600		
Appropriations			\$249,600	\$249,600	\$249,600	\$249,600		

1 B. County, city, school district and township fiscal effect: Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.

	2019-2021 Biennium	2021-2023 Biennium	2023-2025 Biennium
Counties			
Cities			
School Districts			
Townships			

2 A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).

SB2205 would require the Department of Human Services to cover costs related to medical interpreters needed for clients who have a hearing loss or clients who have limited English proficiency under the Medical Assistance program, including Medicaid Expansion.

B. **Fiscal impact sections**: Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.

Section 1 of SB2205 would require the Department of Human Services to cover costs related to medical interpreters needed for clients who have a hearing loss or clients who have limited English proficiency under the Medical Assistance program, including Medicaid Expansion.

DHS estimates that approximately 1% or about 768 recipients of the Traditional Medicaid population could potentially need the use of interpreter services at a minimum of ten occurrences over the course of a biennium at an estimated rate of \$65 per hour. The estimated cost for the 2021-2023 biennium is \$499,200, of which \$249,600 is general fund. The costs for interpretation services would be eligible for 50% federal administrative reimbursement under the Medicaid program.

Interpretation services is currently a covered service for the Medicaid Expansion program; therefore, no additional costs are estimated for this population.

- 3. State fiscal effect detail: For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:
 - A. **Revenues:** Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.

B. **Expenditures:** Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.

Section 1 of SB2205 would require the Department of Human Services to cover costs related to medical interpreters needed for clients who have a hearing loss or clients who have limited English proficiency under the Medical Assistance program, including Medicaid Expansion.

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Interpretation services is currently a covered service for the Medicaid Expansion program; therefore, no additional costs are estimated for this population.

C. **Appropriations:** Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.

For the 2021-2023 biennium, the Department of Human Services would need an appropriation increase in the operating line of \$499,200, of which \$249,600 would be General Fund, to HB1012.

For the 2023-2025 biennium, the Department of Human Services would need an appropriation in the operating line of \$499,200, of which \$249,600 would be General Fund.

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Agency: Human Services

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