

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
12/30/2010

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2035

1A. 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.*

	2009-2011 Biennium		2011-2013 Biennium		2013-2015 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures			\$20,050	\$20,050	\$32,080	\$32,080
Appropriations			\$20,050		\$32,080	

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

2009-2011 Biennium			2011-2013 Biennium			2013-2015 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

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

This bill allows pharmacists to administer immunizations and vaccinations to minors.

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.*

The Vaccines For Children (VFC) program provides vaccines at no cost for administration to children who are either American Indian, Medicaid-eligible, uninsured, or underinsured. If pharmacists are able to vaccinate children, then they could also enroll to receive VFC vaccines through the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH). The NDDoH Immunization Program is required by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to visit 50% of VFC-enrolled providers per year. Also, newly enrolled providers are required to receive an enrollment site visit prior to receiving VFC vaccines. If pharmacists enroll in the VFC program, this will increase the number of site visits that the NDDoH Immunization Program must make each year.

According to the North Dakota Pharmacy Association (NDPhA), about 157 pharmacists are currently certified to immunize in North Dakota. This has increased by about 20 pharmacists since March of 2010. According to NDPhA, many of the pharmacists certified to vaccinate are located at the same pharmacies, but it is unknown how many pharmacies have at least one pharmacist certified to vaccinate. It is also unknown how many pharmacies would be interested in enrolling in the VFC program.

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.*

The NDDoH must visit 50% of VFC-enrolled providers per year. The NDDoH currently has 0.5 FTE conducting VFC site visits and contracts with two local public health units for 1.5 FTE for site visits. The NDDoH Immunization Program estimates that it currently costs about \$802 per VFC site visit.

It is unknown how many pharmacists will want to vaccinate children or enroll in the VFC program. The fiscal note amount for the 2011 - 2013 biennium estimates that 50 pharmacies would need to be visited during the next biennium at \$802 per visit for a total of \$40,100. This estimate is assuming that 50 pharmacies would enroll in the VFC program over the next two years. The 2013 - 2015 biennium fiscal note estimate is based on a need to visit 80 pharmacies at \$802 per visit for a total of \$64,160. This is based on the 50 already enrolled pharmacies needing a site visit to meet the CDC requirement of all clinics receiving a site visit every other year. It also includes 30 newly enrolled pharmacies needing an enrollment visit. The fiscal note for this bill could be less if less pharmacies choose to enroll in the VFC program and could be more if more pharmacies choose to enroll in the VFC program.

Fifty percent of this fiscal note can be absorbed into the current federal immunization program budget and 50 percent is needed from the general fund. General funds for additional contracts would be needed to contract with local public health units to conduct these additional site visits. Increased federal funding for conducting additional site visits is not anticipated at this time.

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 is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

Funding from the general fund for this project is not included in the Department's appropriation bill (HB1004). The Department will need an appropriation for these funds to carry out this project.

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