

Fiscal Analysis

RESPIRE SERVICES SYSTEM



Bill/Sponsor **HOUSE BILL 4476 AS INTRODUCED**, Rep. Barb Vander Veen

House Committee Family and Children Services

Analysis

Summary

House Bill 4476 as introduced creates a new act to establish the Michigan Lifespan Respite Services Program and Community-Based Lifespan Respite Services Programs as a coordinated statewide system, in order to facilitate access to local respite services for family caregivers of children or adults with special needs. The program would be administered by a program specialist in the Department of Community Health. At least six Community Lifespan Respite Services Programs must be established within 1 year of the effective date of the act. Community programs must create an advisory committee.

Fiscal Impact

The bill has state fiscal implications that would require the use of new or redirected appropriations. Total costs for the program are unknown, but would include one-time-only start up costs, ongoing costs for the state level program specialist position (approximately \$100,000 annually for a 100% time position), and ongoing funds to community programs. Ongoing costs may be affected by the number of persons served by the program. Similar programs recently established in a few other states have current appropriations that range from \$225,000 to \$810,000, with community program grants ranging from \$15,000 to \$40,000. These amounts do not represent funding for direct respite care services.

Federal legislation has passed the Senate and awaits House action (S. 538) to establish a national Lifespan Respite Care Program, and make grants available to states and other recipients.

Analysts

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