



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

Date 5/19/22

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H.720 (Act 186) – An act relating to the system of care for individuals with developmental disabilities

As passed by the General Assembly

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<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/ACTS/ACT186/ACT186%20As%20Enacted.pdf>

Other bill information

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.720>

Bill Summary

The bill proposes several initiatives for improving the system of care for Vermonters with developmental disabilities and includes two allocations from the Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percent (FMAP) funding to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living (DAIL).

- \$102,000 to fund a Residential Program Developer (limited-service) position.
- \$500,000 to develop housing and residential services pilot planning grants in at least three regions of the State.

Sec. 4 would create a limited-service position of the Residential Program Developer within DAIL. It is estimated this position would cost between \$85,000 to \$120,000 per year (including wages, benefits, and other associated costs). Sec. 4 includes an **allocation of \$102,000 to DAIL** from the HCBS FMAP monies.

Sec. 5 includes an **allocation of \$500,000 to DAIL** from the HCBS FMAP monies to develop housing and residential service pilot planning grants in at least three regions of the State, in partnership with the designated and specialized service agencies, for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Sec. 5 also requires DAIL to convene a nine-member steering committee to provide advice and guidance as it develops and selects the pilot planning grants. Steering committee members would be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than eight meetings. Assuming all nine-members attend eight meetings, these per diem cost would be \$9,090. This expense is minimal and can be absorbed within DAIL's budget. As such, **no appropriation would be required**. The steering committee would sunset on January 1, 2024.

Sec. 7 would require the Agency of Human Services (AHS) to seek to amend its federal Home-and Community-Based Service Spending Plan to enable DAIL to use Global Commitment HCBS FMAP monies to fund the new Residential Program Developer position created in Sec. 4 and the pilot planning grants in Sec. 5.

Fiscal Summary

The bill includes two allocations to DAIL from the HCBS FMAP monies.

- Sec. 4 - \$102,000 to create a limited service position.
- Sec. 5 - \$500,000 to develop housing and residential service pilot planning grants in at least three regions in the state.