

Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

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FISCAL NOTE

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H.430 – An act relating to expanding eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur to all income-eligible children and pregnant individuals regardless of immigration status

As introduced by the House Committee on Health Care

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.430>

The bill proposes to expand eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur to all income-eligible children and pregnant individuals, regardless of immigration status.

Sec. 2 would appropriate \$1,400,000.00 in one-time state funds to the Agency of Human Services (AHS) in FY 2022 to begin implementation of the expansion of Dr. Dynasaur, including language-appropriate outreach to the affected and health care provider communities.

Fiscal Impact: *FY 2022 appropriation to AHS = \$1,400,000.00 (one-time state dollars)*

Sec. 3 would require AHS to include the full costs of expanding Dr. Dynasaur eligibility to all income-eligible children and pregnant women, regardless of immigration status, in the Agency's fiscal year 2023 budget proposal. While there are no data on how many undocumented individuals would be impacted by this expansion, the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) working with Office of the Health Care Advocate, estimate this expansion could impact as many 22 undocumented pregnant women and 100 children. It is estimated the expansion could cost as much as \$1.3 million annually, depending on uptake and outreach efforts.

- 22 undocumented pregnant women x a PMPM¹ of 3,807.00 = \$1,004,048.00
- 100 children at varying PMPMs – depending on what Medicaid eligibility group they qualify under – could have an estimated annualized cost of \$261,000.00.

The actual cost to AHS in future fiscal years will depend on what the actual take-up rate of this expansion will ultimately be, much of which will rely on education and outreach efforts to the affected communities.

Fiscal Impact: *FY 2023 and beyond = TBD*

- *Preliminary estimates: the expansion could cost as much as \$1.3 million state-only dollars per year*

¹ PMPM stands for per member per month.