

FISCAL NOTE

SJR 57

April 25, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Urges the Governor to develop a new long-term care services plan that includes the entire range of care and support services currently available, a global long-term care budget or other mechanism, and enhanced information, referral and coordination of agencies by providing a single entry point for access to long-term care.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

Other Fiscal Impact – To the extent that the Governor develops a new long-term care services plan, there could be an increase in expenditures estimated to exceed \$1,000,000 in state and federal funds combined.

Assumptions:

- Since the resolution urges but does not mandate the development of a new long-term care services plan, the cost of this resolution is estimated to be not significant.
- However, to the extent such a plan is developed and a reduction in the number of TennCare nursing home patients and beds are not refilled, the facility operational costs will be spread across a smaller base of patients resulting in an increase in the rate per patient and would lessen any savings to be used in home and community based programs.
- It costs the TennCare program \$129 per day to feed the patient, provide a bed to sleep in and has 24 hour a day nursing care. The state is required to recover the amount of nursing home benefits paid from the patient's estate after the patient dies.
- Private duty nursing care would cost \$20 per hour estimated to total \$480 per day. There are no federal laws requiring the recovery of the amount paid for private duty nursing.
- To the extent that the proposed long-term care services plan is able to provide services cost effectively as an alternative to nursing home care for persons who would have been admitted to a nursing home, there could be a significant decrease in state and federal expenditures.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director