



151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL: HOUSE BILL NO. 303
AS AMENDED BY: HA 1
SPONSOR: Representative Longhurst
DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLES 18, 29, AND 31 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH.

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor. As amended by HA 1, the requirement to cover behavioral health well checks under this Act becomes effective January 1, 2024. Section 5 of the Act, which establishes a process to create a developmentally appropriate design for the annual behavioral health wellness check, is effective upon signature by the Governor.
2. This Act requires carriers to provide coverage of an annual behavioral health well check. For the purpose of this Act, "carrier" includes an insurance company, health service corporation, health maintenance organization, or any health plan subject to state insurance regulation. "Carrier" also includes self-insured and Medicaid plans.
3. The behavioral health well check is defined as a pre-deductible annual visit with a licensed mental health clinician possessing at minimum a master's level degree.
4. Third-party administrators for the State Employee Group Health Insurance Program (GHIP) have estimated up to 15,000 well checks could be covered annually with a yearly cost to the GHIP of \$2.4 million.
5. The Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) has estimated up to 37,500 well checks could be covered annually with a yearly Medicaid cost of \$4.7 million of which the General Fund cost share would be \$1.9 million.
6. The DMMA has also estimated that upon implementation, \$500,000 in costs associated with a one-time information system reconfiguration to implement new billing rules, reprogram current system edits/audits and modify quality measure reporting logic.
7. This analysis assumes one-half year funding of benefits for Fiscal Year 2024 and full-year funding thereafter.

Cost:

	GHIP	Medicaid	One-time
Fiscal Year 2023:			\$ 500,000
Fiscal Year 2024:	\$1,200,000	\$ 950,000	
Fiscal Year 2025:	\$2,400,000	\$1,900,000	

Prepared by Robert Scoglietti
Office of the Controller General