

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 0314H.01I  
Bill No.: HB 117  
Subject: Public Assistance  
Type: Original  
Date: December 17, 2020

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Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to blind pensions.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Blind Pension (0621)*	\$85,663	\$102,795	\$102,795
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$85,663</b>	<b>\$102,795</b>	<b>\$102,795</b>

\*Cost avoidance if the Department of Social Services can send notices to the applicants and/or recipients by regular mail instead of certified mail.

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### §209.030 - Blind Pension; removal of certified mail provision

Officials from the **Department of Social Services, Family Support Division (DSS/FSD)** state funds were not allocated to FSD for the costs incurred as a result of the requirement to send communications to Blind Pension (BP) participants via certified mail. Therefore, FSD redirected funds from other activities for this purpose. FSD would realize a cost avoidance of \$102,795 (\$112,750 - \$9,955 = \$102,795) (certified mail vs. standard) as a result of this legislation. If the provisions of this legislation are enacted, FSD would redirect these funds back to case management activities.

**Oversight** notes the Blind Pension program receives no federal funds. DSS assumes savings from a reduction in certified mail costs (administrative activity) will be redirected to other activities. Oversight will show the estimated savings provided by DSS/FSD to the Blind Pension Fund. Oversight notes subsection 209.030.3 was added in 2018 with HCS/HB 2171.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2022 (10 Mo.)	FY 2023	FY 2024
<b>BLIND PENSION FUND</b>			
<u>Savings - DSS (§209.030) - Savings on certified mail costs</u>	<u>\$85,663</u>	<u>\$102,795</u>	<u>\$102,795</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE BLIND PENSION FUND</b>	<b><u>\$85,663</u></b>	<b><u>\$102,795</u></b>	<b><u>\$102,795</u></b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2022 (10 Mo.)	FY 2023	FY 2024
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

### FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

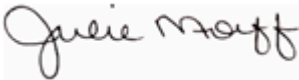
### FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill removes a requirement that any notice sent to an applicant or recipient of blind pension funds must be sent by certified mail. Instead, the bill allows the notice to be sent by any mail delivered by the United States Postal Service (§209.030).

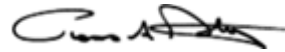
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Social Services -  
Family Support Division



Julie Morff  
Director  
December 17, 2020



Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
December 17, 2020