

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE**  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 4618**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: DECEMBER 29, 2022

**SUMMARY**

**Synopsis:** Creates online job portal for behavioral health care workers and online internship and externship portal for health care students.

**Type of Impact:** Annual State expenditure increase; General Fund.

**Agencies Affected:** Department of Health.

**Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<b><u>Annual</u></b>
<b>State Cost Increase</b>	Indeterminate

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) estimates that the Department of Health will incur annual indeterminate cost increases to fulfill the provisions of this bill regarding an online job portal for behavioral health care workers and an online internship and externship portal for behavioral health care students.
- It is possible that costs under the bill can be reduced if the department develops the portals in house or collaborates with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, which currently administers an online job posting and search platform for employers and prospective employees. If the Department of Health contracts with another third party vendor to develop and administer the online portals, as permitted under the bill, annual costs could be higher.

**BILL DESCRIPTION**

This bill requires the Department of Health to create, maintain, and update: 1) an online job portal that permits in-State employers to post job openings for behavioral health care workers; and 2) an online internship and externship portal that permits in-State employers to post internship and externship openings that are eligible to provide academic credits for students who are studying to become a health care professional or to provide credits toward licensure or completion of a program. The department may contract with a third party to develop and administer the online job portal and online internship and externship portal as necessary.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The OLS estimates that the Department of Health will incur annual indeterminate cost increases to fulfill the provisions of this bill regarding an online job portal for behavioral health care workers and an online internship and externship portal for behavioral health care students. It is possible that costs under the bill could be reduced if the department develops the portals in house or collaborates with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, which currently administers an online job posting and search platform for employers and prospective employees. While the costs under the bill cannot be quantified, the OLS concludes that the majority of the costs will be one-time expenses and will be associated with creating the two online portals and expanding the State's existing information technology infrastructure to comply with the provisions of the bill. Ongoing costs thereafter will be incurred to update the portals as needed. To the extent that the Department of Health can use existing resources to accomplish these tasks, costs to the State will be minimized. If the department contracts with another third party vendor, as permitted under the bill, annual costs could be higher.

*Section:*        *Human Services*

*Analyst:*       *Sarah Schmidt*  
                     *Lead Research Analyst*

*Approved:*     *Thomas Koenig*  
                     *Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).