

SB 1528 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Prepared By: Daniel Dietz, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/7, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide person-centered resource facilitation, skills training, advocacy, and options counseling to individuals with brain injuries. Defines “brain injury.” Establishes the Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Committee, including representatives who are living with brain injuries, to consult on the development of programs and services. Requires DHS to report to the Legislative Assembly in each odd-numbered year on utilization of services and the needs and barriers faced by individuals with brain injuries. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to DHS.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines traumatic brain injury (TBI) as a disruption in the normal function of the brain that can be caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or penetrating head injury. The CDC reports that 223,050 people were hospitalized in 2018 for brain injury, including 16,480 children. People with brain injuries may have impairments related to thinking or memory, movement, sensation (e.g., vision or hearing), or emotional functioning (e.g., personality changes, depression). Brain injuries have lasting effects on individuals, families, and communities.

Senate Bill 1528 establishes a program within the Department of Human Services to provide services to individuals with brain injuries.