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**FISCAL IMPACT REPORT**

SPONSOR: Jennings DATE TYPED: 2-28-01 HB \_\_\_\_\_  
 SHORT TITLE: Clinical Nurse Specialists SB 475  
 ANALYST: Taylor

**APPROPRIATION**

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
	NFI				

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in The General Appropriation Act None.

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

Human Services Department  
 Health Policy Commission

**SUMMARY**

Senate Bill 475 requires the Human Services Department to recognize clinical nurse specialists as midlevel providers in the Medicaid program.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The fiscal implications for this bill are possibly mixed. The Health Policy Commission notes that program costs could decline as reimbursement requirements for clinical nurse providers may be lower than for physicians in many cases. On the other hand the Human Services Department suggests that costs could actually increase as access to care is increased. The fiscal impact should be negligible in either direction. Generally, Medicaid reimburses for the service. Clinical nurse specialists work under the supervision of doctors, so in the vast majority of cases, persons have access to care.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

The Human Services Department notes that the bill would have an administrative impact. They would have to promulgate new regulations and develop a reimbursement methodology.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

The Human Services Department’s comments that cost could go up because of increased access, implies that cost are currently held in check by a lack of access.

BT/njw