

JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis
Senate Appropriations Committee

Concerning medicaid reimbursement for outpatient procedures related to drug-resistant epilepsy.

Prime Sponsors:

Senator Jodeh; Mullica
Representative Gilchrist

Date Prepared:

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Fiscal Impacts

Appropriation Not Required, Amendment in Packet

General Fund Impact

Significant Appropriation Increase in Second Year

Fiscal Note Status

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 02/27/25.

No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill.

Amendments in This Packet

L.003 Bill Sponsor amendment – changes the fiscal impact

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill neither requires nor contains an appropriation clause.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

L.003

Bill Sponsor amendment **L.003** (attached) reduces the Medicaid reimbursement for vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) therapy from the cost of the procedure plus 75 percent of the acquisition cost for the VNS device to the cost of the procedure plus 60 percent of the acquisition cost for the VNS device. On January 1, 2029 the reimbursement rate acquisition cost increases to 75 percent.

Legislative Council Staff and the JBC staff agree that the amendment reduces the projected costs in FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28. See the attached memo from Legislative Council Staff dated April 11, 2025

Points to Consider

Future Fiscal Impact

Although the bill has no fiscal impact in FY 2025-26, it requires General Fund beginning in FY 2026-27 and ongoing. With sponsor amendment L.003, the bill will require \$36,430 General Fund in FY 2026-27, \$53,187 General Fund in FY 2027-28, and \$113,307 General Fund in FY 2028-29 and ongoing.