

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1645

As Passed House:

February 28, 2007

Title: An act relating to providing the administrator with authority to administer grants on behalf of the health care authority.

Brief Description: Authorizing the administrator of the health care authority to administer grants on behalf of the authority.

Sponsors: By Representatives Pedersen, Curtis, Schual-Berke, Ormsby and Moeller; by request of Health Care Authority.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Health Care & Wellness: 2/5/07, 2/14/07 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 2/28/07, 97-0.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Authorizes the Health Care Authority to issue, distribute, and administer grants.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 12 members: Representatives Cody, Chair; Morrell, Vice Chair; Alexander, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Barlow, Campbell, Condotta, Curtis, Green, Moeller, Pedersen, Schual-Berke and Seaquist.

Staff: Chris Blake (786-7392).

Background:

The State Health Care Authority (HCA) is the state agency which administers state employee insurance benefits and the Basic Health Plan, which is a state subsidized health insurance program for low income people. The HCA's authority includes the ability to apply for, receive, and accept grants to implement initiatives and strategies.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary of Bill:

It is specified that the primary duties of the HCA includes administering grants that further its mission and goals. The HCA may issue, distribute, and administer such grants.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) This is a housekeeping matter for the Health Care Authority. This will allow the Health Care Authority to administer certain programs as grant-issuing programs.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Pedersen, prime sponsor; and Barney Speight and Dennis Martin, Health Care Authority.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.