

Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

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FISCAL NOTE

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H. 620 – An act relating to the payment error rates in 3SquaresVT

Currently, when participants of the 3SquareVT program receive a higher benefit than they are entitled to due to an error by the Department for Children and families (DCF), they are required to reimburse the federal Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) for any such over-issuance. The intent of the bill is for DCF to assume responsibility for the repayment of both the remaining balances owed by participants due to an agency error as well as reimburse participants for amounts already paid back to FNS for federal fiscal years 2011-2014. This requires the state to amend its 3SquareVT Claims plan. However, it is unclear if FNS will approve these changes, which would also allow compromises of up to 50% of the amounts owed. Due to the uncertainty, the bill appropriates 100% of estimated amounts owed to FNS for FFY 2011-2014. If FNS allows Vermont to carry out these provisions with a 50% compromise, the cost to DCF could be half the amount appropriated.

Year	Amounts Owed to FNS
2011	\$182,269
2012	\$192,408
2013	\$125,242
2014 (est.)	\$140,000
TOTAL	\$639,919

Fiscal Impact

SFY'15 = \$639,919