

SB 238-FN - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

03/06/2025 0484s

2025 SESSION

25-1150

05/11

SENATE BILL

238-FN

AN ACT

establishing the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) prevention and treatment program and making an appropriation to the department of health and human services for this purpose.

SPONSORS:

Sen. Long, Dist 20; Sen. Ricciardi, Dist 9

COMMITTEE:

Finance

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) prevention and treatment program as an ongoing program rather than as a pilot within the department of health and human services. The bill also makes an appropriation to the department of health and human services for this purpose.

Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT establishing the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) prevention and treatment program and making an appropriation to the department of health and human services for this purpose.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Home and Community Based Behavioral Health Services for Children; Adverse Childhood
2 Experiences (ACEs) Prevention and Treatment Program. Amend RSA 167:3-1, IV to read as follows:

3 IV.(a) ~~[On or before January 1, 2023, the department shall develop a timeline, conduct a cost~~
4 ~~analysis plan, and provide a detailed report of the timeline and cost analysis plan to the senate~~
5 ~~health and human services committee and the house children and family law and health, human~~
6 ~~services and elderly affairs committees, to]~~ ***The department of health and human services shall***
7 ***establish the ACEs prevention and treatment program, to support children, birth to age 6,***
8 ***with exposure to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and severe emotional disturbances***
9 ***whose needs cannot be met through childcare, educational, and developmental services***
10 ***alone. The program shall be designed to provide prevention, assessment, diagnoses, and***
11 ***treatment services for such children and their families, by:***

12 (1) ~~[-Increase]~~ ***Increasing*** Medicaid reimbursement for early childhood mental
13 health care, including but not limited to child parent psychotherapy, to enhance services for
14 Medicaid patients;

15 (2) ~~[Elevate]~~ ***Elevating*** the early childhood and family mental health credential
16 statewide by requiring the credential for specific provider levels and/or associating the credential
17 with an increased salary level or higher reimbursement rates; and

18 (3) ~~[Offer]~~ ***Offering continued funding, including*** scholarships or
19 reimbursements, to cover costs associated with ~~[the training to incentivize providers to take part in~~
20 ~~the training]~~ ***ongoing training and professional development in early childhood mental***
21 ***health care, including but to limited to child parent psychotherapy, to ensure the highest***
22 ***levels of training and services to children and families.***

23 (b) Within one year of the effective date of this paragraph, the department shall develop
24 and begin implementation of a 5-year plan to build the state's workforce capacity to provide child-
25 parent psychotherapy (CPP), an intervention model for children from birth to age 6, who have
26 experienced at least one traumatic event and/or are experiencing mental health, attachment, and/or
27 behavioral problems, including posttraumatic stress disorder.

28 2 Appropriation; Department of Health and Human Services; Adverse Childhood Experiences
29 (ACEs) Prevention and Treatment Program.

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1 I. The sum of \$150,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 is hereby appropriated to the
2 department of health and human services to fund the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)
3 prevention and treatment program, and continue to expand and fund continued professional
4 development for child-parent psychotherapy (CPP) services, as described in RSA 167:3-1, IV. The
5 governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not
6 otherwise appropriated.

7 II. The sum of \$150,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 is hereby appropriated to
8 the department of health and human services to fund the ACEs prevention and treatment program,
9 and continue to expand and fund continued professional development for CPP services, as described
10 in RSA 167:3-1, IV.

11 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

SB 238-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT extending funding for the adverse childhood experiences prevention and treatment pilot program.

FISCAL IMPACT: This bill does not authorize new positions.

Estimated State Impact				
	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Revenue Fund(s)</i>	None			
Expenditures*	\$0	\$1,200,000	\$500,000	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	General Fund			
Appropriations*	\$0	\$1,700,000	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	General Fund			

*Expenditure = Cost of bill

*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill

METHODOLOGY:

This bill makes the following appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services:

- \$700,000 in FY26 to expand child psychotherapy services
- \$1,000,000 for the FY26/27 biennium to support family resource center infrastructure.

The Department assumes that expenditures under the latter appropriation will be split equally between FY26 and FY27. In addition, the bill extends through June 30, 2027 the adverse childhood experiences (ACE) pilot program as part of the Medicaid home and community-based behavioral health program for children. The Department states that it has integrated the program into its provider contracts, and can continue to perform this work as part of its existing responsibilities.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Health and Human Services