

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6918
BILL NUMBER: HB 1488

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 30, 2024
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Pediatric Cancer Research and Treatment Grant.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Lauer
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill establishes the Pediatric Cancer Research and Treatment Grant Program (grant program) to be administered by the Rare Disease Advisory Council (council). The bill also establishes the Pediatric Cancer Research and Treatment Fund. The bill sets forth requirements for an entity to receive a grant. It requires the council to develop criteria, policies, procedures, and a plan concerning awarding of the grants. The bill prioritizes use of the funds to be on innovative research and treatments with the potential of resulting in novel therapies for pediatric cancer. The bill requires the council to submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislative Council concerning the grant program and publish the report on the Indiana Department of Health's website.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Pediatric Cancer Research and Treatment Grant Program:* The new grant program is to be administered by the Rare Disease Advisory Council (RDAC). The requirements of the RDAC to develop criteria, policies, procedures, and a plan concerning awarding of the grants, may require dedicated staff. Based on similar positions at the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH), employing a full-time grant coordinator for the council may be expected to cost between \$85,000 and \$95,000 per year, inclusive of salary and benefits. The RDAC is also required to submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislative Council.

Pediatric Cancer Research and Treatment Fund: The new non-reverting fund is established to provide matching grants for medical research and treatments that focus on pediatric cancer. The fund may consist of appropriations, grants, or donations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend on legislative and administrative actions.

Additional Information: The RDAC was established in 2023 and currently has 15 members. The RDAC holds public meetings bimonthly, and the first Annual Report with recommendations was published in June of 2024. *[Currently, IDOH provides for the expenses and administrative assistance to the RDAC. IDOH administration is funded by the Tobacco Master Settlement Fund, a dedicated fund.]*

Explanation of State Revenues: State educational institutions (SEIs) may receive grant funding from the newly established grant program if they choose to apply and meet the eligibility requirements. Grant revenue would be used for research and treatment of childhood cancer.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: An eligible local unit (medical research center) that focuses on pediatric cancer research and treatment could experience a minor increase in workload if they choose to apply for the grant. The bill also states that the grants to be provided are matching grants, yet is silent on the amount or source for matching funds. To the extent a local unit offers matching funds, grant expenditures could increase.

Explanation of Local Revenues: If a medical research center or any other local unit that focuses on pediatric cancer research and treatment applies for the grant, and is selected, then they will receive additional funds for pediatric cancer research and treatment.

State Agencies Affected: Governor; Legislative Council; Indiana Department of Health; State Educational Institutions.

Local Agencies Affected: Medical Research Hospitals; A Local Unit Involved in Pediatric Cancer Research and Treatment.

Information Sources: Indiana Department of Health, Rare Disease Advisory Council: IC 16-46-17
https://iga.in.gov/publications/agency_report/Rare%20Disease%20Advisory%20Council%20Annual%20Report.pdf

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