

**BILL SUMMARY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 55<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB 2923</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>Com. Sub.</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>9380</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. Kirby</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>3/9/2016</b>
<b>Impact: Undetermined state cost in FBA coverage for schools; est. cost of \$270,000 state funds per year for HCA; OMES: an estimated cost of \$200,000 for HealthChoice; possible negative to private insurers</b>	

**Research Analysis**

HB 2923 requires that, when a health insurance plan provides coverage for physical and rehabilitative services, services provided by a licensed athletic trainer are included by that coverage.

Prepared By: Sean Webster

**Fiscal Analysis**

CS for HB 2923 provides that whenever a Health Insurance Plan and the Oklahoma Medicaid Program provides coverage for certain medicine and services, which shall include coverage for such services that are rendered by an athletic trainer licensed under the Oklahoma Athletic Trainers Act that are within the trainer's scope of practice.

Department of Education personnel provide that there will be an undetermined cost to the state and/or school districts for the new coverage under flexible benefits allowance that covers school athletic trainers.

HealthChoice does not currently include athletic trainers on the list of covered providers. OMES estimates on the low side, there will be a cost of \$200,000 to the state. According to OMES:

*Incurring claims for HealthChoice for 2015 included \$18,964,336 of charges by physical therapists, which resulted in allowed charges of \$9,863,213 and \$6,552,999 in payments by the plan. A very conservative estimate of a five percent increase in utilization would cost an additional \$300,000; a ten percent increase would cost \$650,000.*

It is also estimated that most private insurers do not include athletic trainers as covered providers. There is most likely an impact to consumers' premiums.

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority personnel anticipate no federal Medicaid reimbursement for this service. They anticipate an increase in utilization of 25% by this provider type, at an approximate cost of \$270,000 in state only funds per year.

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### **Other Considerations**

None

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