

**BILL SUMMARY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 1491</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>CS</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>10858</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. Roe</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>4/4/2024</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Research Analysis**

The committee substitute to Senate Bill 1491 permits healthcare providers to offer expedited partner therapy to patients diagnosed with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) when the patient's partner is unlikely or unable to seek treatment. The therapy must include counseling for the patient and is limited to partners exposed to an STI within 60 days of diagnosis. The bill shields healthcare providers from additional liability for providing this therapy and mandates the distribution of certain health information materials by the State Department of Health. Additionally, it grants authority to relevant state boards to establish rules for implementation. The measure also replaces the term "physician" with "health care provider" as it relates to reporting and treatment of venereal diseases.

Prepared By: Matthew Brenchley

**Fiscal Analysis**

SB 1491 allows health care providers to offer expedited partner therapy under certain conditions. The State Department of Health (OSDH) must create written materials containing warning information for the sexual partner to be distributed by the health care provider.

OSDH confirmed the provisions of this measure are objective within the department's existing resources. Therefore, this measure is not anticipated to have a direct fiscal impact on the state budget or appropriations.

The committee substitute does not affect the fiscal impact of this measure.

Prepared By: Alexandra Ladner, House Fiscal Staff

**Other Considerations**

None.