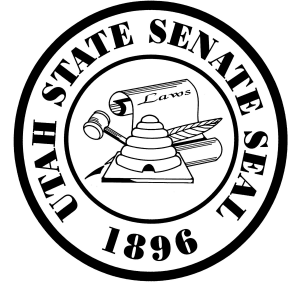




**Performance Note**  
**HB0285 - Utah Professionals**  
**Health Program**  
Sponsor: Rep. Daw, Brad M.



Performance Note Report

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Author: Peter Anjewierden

Agency: Department of Commerce

Funding For:

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New Services or Benefit

Public Benefit:

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**Purpose:** Nearly all of the 50 states have a program that fits within the general category of a "physician's health program" (PHP). <https://www.fsphp.org/state-programs>. While no two programs are identical, the programs typically provide an avenue for the public to confidentially monitor physicians (and sometimes other health care providers) with a substance use disorder in a nondisciplinary way. Utah's program is called the Utah Recovery Assistance Program. (URAP) In HB 285 the program will be renamed the Utah Professionals Health Program (UPHP). The current program serves not only physicians, but all those licensed by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing. Almost all of the current participants are physicians, pharmacists, and nurses. The updated program will serve pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, veterinarians, LPNs, RNs, and APRNs, MDs, DOs, Podiatrists, Dentists, Dental Hygienists, and PAs.

**Services:** As society has come to view substance use disorders as a disease, rather than a crime, public policy has attempted to balance the need to protect the public with the need to keep highly-trained licensed healthcare workers in the workforce while they are healing. The goal of the UPHP is to differentiate those workers who can practice safely under a confidential monitoring program from those who cannot and need to be publicly disciplined and monitored. The UPHP will not be providing treatment, but it will be monitoring treatment and other elements of a professional's healing process in a confidential manner.

**Expected Outcome:** According to a recent study, it is expected that numbers of participants will skyrocket. This is due to various factors: - First, the program will begin providing aggressive education and outreach. - Second, the program intake will be separated from investigation complaint intake - Third, DOPL is currently developing outreach videos that reduce the stigma for those determining whether to address their substance use disorder. Because the professional's license is on the line, program participants are very active and are compliant at a higher rate than many other groups. It is estimated that program participation will double from 60 to 120 within the first two years, with more significant results beyond the two-year window. And 100% of program participants will be monitored by a professional trained in substance use disorder treatment.

**Implementations and Resources:** The current program has one part-time medical director and a clerical staff member. It also has committees that assist the program. The updated program contemplated by

this budget request and its companion bill adds three mental health specialists, eliminates the peer review committees, and establishes an executive committee and a clinical committee. It also covers overhead costs, including one shared vehicle for the 4.5 staff members to provide education and outreach.

How: Studies have shown that the proposed activities of active monitoring by substance use disorder treatment experts in a confidential environment result in (1) a greater likelihood of self-reporting when a problem exists that could harm the public, (2) greater compliance rates and success in monitoring.

Performance Measures.....

Goal

Title: Increase the number of participants in the program to justify additional staff.

Description: Double the number of participants in the next two years with outreach awareness, and increased professional staff.

Collection Method: Collect data on outcomes of the additional participants by coordinating with the Program Director and obtaining regular quarterly updates on the percent increase in participants.

	2020	2021	2022
Participants	60.00	90.00	120.00
Baseline	60.00	90.00	120.00

By rule, performance notes are provided by the governmental entity that will supervise the new agency or administer the new program. Performance notes are not written by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.