

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 1104 (Delegate Montague)  
Judiciary

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**Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment - Spiritual Healing**

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This bill provides that the child abuse and neglect law may not be construed as requiring a parent to provide a child with medical treatment that is against the religious belief of the parent. This does not prohibit Child Protective Services from pursuing any legal remedy to provide necessary medical treatment for a child or complying with a federal requirement for provision of medical treatment for a disabled infant with a life-threatening condition. An investigation of the need for medical treatment by Child Protective Services must be conducted in a manner that is the least restrictive on the religious practice of the parent.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. Any change in State activities would not materially affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None. The bill would not directly affect small businesses.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Human Resources, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts)

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 27, 1997  
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