

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1243 (Delegate Elliott)
Health and Government Operations

Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene - Local Health Department Volunteers

This bill specifically authorizes the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to recruit primary and specialty care physicians and other health care practitioners as volunteers of a local health department on behalf of the State.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The change would not directly or materially affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Secretary, on his own initiative or on the request of a community or voluntary nonprofit organization, may conduct a survey to identify any area in Maryland that has a substantial deficiency in general medical or health care facilities or services. Cooperating with the appropriate county or State group, the Secretary may provide the community or organization with counsel and other help to establish medical or health care facilities and to recruit medical or health care staff in that area. This bill specifically includes recruitment of primary and specialty care physicians and other health care practitioners as volunteers. If these efforts are unsuccessful, the Secretary may provide

the facilities or staff by contract with one or more physicians, hospitals, or other medical groups or personnel.

A health care practitioner is any individual who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized under the Health Occupations Article to provide health care services.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 10, 2006
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