

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 594

(Delegate Hubbard, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Finance

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - Long-Term Care Services for
Cognitive and Functional Impairments - Study and Analysis

This bill requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) to conduct a study and analysis of options available to increase access to long-term care services for individuals who are at high risk of institutionalization and meet financial eligibility criteria. The study and analysis must include a • review of the provision of long-term care services in other states; • determination of the feasibility of developing criteria for an alternative level of care and increasing access to long-term care services through available waiver options; and • cost-benefit analysis of the options examined. DHMH must submit to the Governor and specified legislative committees an interim report by October 1, 2007 and a final report by December 1, 2007.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2007 and terminates May 31, 2008.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The study and analysis could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Medicaid provides coverage for most long-term care services for an individual who meets certain financial and medical eligibility requirements. The federal Social Security Act gives states the option of requesting waivers of certain federal

requirements in order to develop community-based alternatives to placing Medicaid-eligible individuals in hospitals, nursing facilities, or institutions. Medicaid home- and community-based waivers allow individuals to receive long-term care services in the community rather than an institutional setting.

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 9, 2007
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