

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 582 (Delegate Vallario)

Judiciary

Evidence - Health Care Records and Writings

This bill expands the definition of “health care provider” for the purpose of making writings or records of certain health care institutions admissible as evidence in personal injury or benefits claim proceedings. The bill expands the term “health care provider” to include a: (1) hospital; (2) ambulatory surgical facility; (3) inpatient facility for the rehabilitation of disabled persons; (4) home health agency; and (5) health institution that requires a certificate of need. The bill makes health care provider writings or records admissible as evidence in cases originally filed in circuit court. Current law provides that health care provider writings and records are admissible as evidence only in District Court proceedings or a circuit court proceeding in which the case was originally filed in District Court and subsequently transferred to circuit court. The bill’s provisions do not apply to an action for damages filed with the Health Claims Arbitration Office.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not materially affect the Judiciary’s workload.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 25, 1999
lnc/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 30, 1999

Analysis by: Susan John

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510