

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 837

(Delegate McDonough, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Finance

**Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - Regulation of Nursing Homes -
Review**

This bill requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), in consultation with other specified parties, to review current State laws and regulations, best practices, and experiences of other states with regard to the regulation of nursing homes in the State. DHMH must report by January 1, 2008 on the review, including a discussion of: • the status of and demand for electronic monitoring; • resident-directed care and whether specific State regulations may be barriers to culture change and patients' rights; • the status and rights of family councils; • communication between residents or their legal representatives and nursing homes; • whether specific State regulations should be changed to provide nursing homes with greater flexibility while maintaining safety; and • any other issue that DHMH considers necessary to review.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2007.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Background: There are approximately 238 licensed nursing homes in Maryland. According to the Office of Health Care Quality, State nursing home regulations have not been comprehensively reviewed in many years.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 28, 2007
ncs/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 22, 2007

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