

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 1800 (Delegate Cullison, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Rules

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State Department of Education and Maryland Department of Health - School-  
Based Health Centers - Adoption of Standards

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This bill requires the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), by August 1, 2018, to adopt Maryland school-based health center (SBHC) standards that (1) repeal current requirements that SBHCs have a medical director who is a physician and that a physician consultant be available to SBHC staff to discuss clinical issues as needed and (2) authorize a licensed physician or nurse practitioner to serve as a clinical director or consultant of a SBHC. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018, and terminates June 30, 2019.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** MSDE and MDH can amend Maryland's SBHC standards with existing budgeted staff and resources. Revenues are not affected.

**Local Effect:** Although expenditures may decrease minimally, the required changes to SBHC standards are not anticipated to materially affect local board of education or local health department (LHD) finances. Local boards of education and LHDs can consult with MSDE and MDH as necessary to assist with the adoption of updated SBHC standards with existing staff and resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** MSDE and MDH are required to jointly (1) develop public standards and guidelines for school health programs and (2) offer assistance to local boards

of education and LHDs in their implementation. Statute requires each local board of education, with the assistance of the LHD, to provide adequate school health services, instruction in health education (including the importance of physical activity in maintaining good health), and a healthful school environment.

SBHCs are health centers located in a school or on a school campus that provide on-site comprehensive preventative and primary health services. Services may also include mental health, oral health, ancillary, and supportive services.

The Maryland School-Based Health Center Policy Advisory Council was established and began to meet in 2003. The council was mandated to establish uniform statewide standards for SBHCs. These standards are available on MSDE's [website](#). In Maryland, there are two primary models of school health services: (1) a nurse in every school; or (2) a paraprofessional in each school with a registered nurse supervisor covering two to four schools. According to the Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care, there are 80 SBHCs in Maryland. Most SBHCs are sponsored by the LHD.

All SBHCs in Maryland must meet minimum requirements. Among other things, all SBHCs must develop an organizational chart that reflects clear lines of authority for SBHC program staff and staff employed by the local school system or other agency. One administrator must be responsible for the SBHC's overall management, quality of care, and coordination with school personnel. Each SBHC must have a designated site coordinator, with administrative duties outlined in a job description. Additionally, a physician consultant must be available to staff to discuss clinical issues as needed.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Association of County Health Officers; Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care; Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - April 3, 2018  
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