

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1505 (Delegate Rosenberg)
Health and Government Operations

Health - Psychiatric Hospitals - Units Licensed as Assisted Living Facilities

This bill requires a State or private psychiatric hospital that provides subacute care in a unit that is licensed as an assisted living program to (1) authorize patients to seek insurance reimbursement for services provided by the unit; (2) bill patients receiving services in a manner that is consistent with billing standards required by insurance carriers; and (3) provide staff assistance to patients seeking insurance reimbursement for services provided. By December 30, 2018, the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) must submit a report to specified committees of the General Assembly.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: OHCQ can handle the bill's reporting requirement with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: OHCQ must report on (1) the units providing behavioral health services and operating within psychiatric hospitals that are licensed as assisted living programs and (2) whether the licensure of each unit as an assisted living program is appropriate.

Current Law/Background: OHCQ advises that, as of February 2018, only two psychiatric hospitals in the State, the Thomas B. Finan Center and The Retreat at Sheppard Pratt, provide subacute care in a unit licensed as an assisted living program. The

Thomas B. Finan Center is the only State hospital with an assisted living program. The center is a multipurpose inpatient psychiatric facility operating 88 beds that provides specialized evaluation and treatment services for adult and geriatric psychiatric patients. The Behavioral Health Administration advises that the center already seeks reimbursement from insurance for services provided.

The Retreat at Sheppard Pratt is a 16-bed residential program that offers intensive and personalized assessment and treatment programs. The program is self-pay and does not participate with insurance.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Health; Maryland Insurance Administration; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 1, 2018
nb/jc

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