Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 412 (Senator Gile, *et al.*)

Finance   Health and Government Operations

Mental Health Law - County Mental Health Advisory Committees - Membership

This bill adds an individual with experience with mental health care for veterans or individuals serving in the military to the list of persons that can be appointed as a voting member, as specified, to a county mental health advisory committee.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill only pertains to local government operations.

Local Effect: None. Altering the potential membership of an advisory committee does not affect local governmental finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Pursuant to the Health-General Article, the governing body of each county must establish a mental health advisory committee to serve as an advocate for a comprehensive mental health system for persons of all ages. The mental health advisory committee of each county must consist of specified nonvoting *ex officio* members and specified voting members who are appointed by the governing body of the county and representative of the county's major socioeconomic and ethnic groups. The appointed voting members must be selected from a specified list of groups, agencies, and organizations.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: HB 408 (Delegate Bagnall, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Maryland Association of County Health Officers; Baltimore City; Howard and Prince George's counties; Department of Veterans Affairs; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 12, 2024
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