

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 757

(Delegate R. Lewis, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Finance

**State Board of Physicians - Supervised Medical Graduates and Cardiovascular
Invasive Specialists (Bridge to Medical Residency Act)**

This emergency bill authorizes a “supervised medical graduate” (an individual who has a degree of doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy from an institution that meets specified standards and has passed parts one and two of the United States Medical Licensing Examination) to perform delegated duties in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Board of Physicians (MBP) under “direct supervision” (oversight exercised by a delegating physician who is (1) personally treating the patient; (2) in the same medical office as the patient and the specified graduate; and (3) immediately available to provide assistance and guidance – but not required to be in the presence of the patient and specified graduate – while a delegated duty is being completed). An individual may not practice as a supervised medical graduate for more than two years. The bill also repeals the September 30, 2024, termination date of Chapter 445 of 2019, which authorized a licensed physician to delegate duties to a registered cardiovascular invasive specialist (CIS).

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: MBP can adopt regulations using existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Meaningful.

Analysis

Current Law:

State Board of Physicians

The mission of MBP is to assure quality health care in Maryland through the efficient licensure and effective discipline of health providers under its jurisdiction by protecting and educating clients/customers and stakeholders and enforcing the Maryland Medical Practice Act. The board has regulatory authority over physicians, physician assistants, radiographers, radiation therapists, nuclear medicine technologists, radiologist assistants, respiratory care practitioners, polysomnographic technologists, athletic trainers, perfusionists, naturopathic doctors, and genetic counselors.

Cardiovascular Invasive Specialists

Chapter 445 authorizes a licensed physician to delegate duties to a “registered cardiovascular invasive specialist” assisting in a fluoroscopy under specified conditions. “Registered cardiovascular invasive specialist” means an individual who is credentialed by Cardiovascular Credentialing International or another credentialing body approved by MBP to assist in cardiac catheterization procedures under the direct, in-person supervision of a licensed physician.

A CIS may assist a physician in the physician’s performance of a fluoroscopy if (1) the delegated duties are limited to a cardiac catheterization procedure performed in a hospital cardiac catheterization laboratory; (2) the physician is physically present and personally directs each act performed by the registered CIS; (3) the registered CIS has completed the training and education and has the experience required by MBP regulations; and (4) the hospital in which the cardiac catheterization laboratory is located has verified and documented that the registered CIS has completed the specified training and education and has the required experience required by MBP regulations.

It is the responsibility of the hospital, and the physician who is supervising the procedure, to ensure that specified requirements are met for each procedure. MBP may impose a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each instance of a hospital’s failure to comply with the specified requirements.

The Maryland Health Care Commission was required to conduct a review of hospital cardiac care catheterization laboratories in the State and issue a [report](#) by October 1, 2023.

Small Business Effect: Small business health care providers may benefit from the bill’s authorization for a medical graduate to perform delegated duties under the direct supervision of a physician.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has been introduced within the last three years. See HB 507 of 2023.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

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