

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 290 (Delegate Busch)
Economic Matters

Maryland Partnership for Long-Term Care Program - Implementation

This bill postpones implementation of the Maryland Partnership for Long-Term Care Program until federal law allows an exemption from estate recovery requirements of the Medicaid program.

The bill takes effect July 1, 1996.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The Partnership for Long-Term Care Program has not been implemented because of federal restrictions and there are no funds allocated for it in the FY 1997 budget allowance.

Local Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: The Partnership for Long-Term Care Program, enacted in 1993, seeks to encourage individuals to purchase long-term care policies for the purpose of qualifying for Medicaid without exhausting all one's resources. To determine eligibility for Medicaid, benefits paid under approved policies are to be excluded from the Medicaid program's calculation of the individual's resources to the extent the payments went to services and nursing home care covered by Medicaid.

Medicaid legislation currently being considered by Congress not only would cap the amount of funds that states receive under Medicaid, but would also exempt from estate recovery requirements those Medicaid recipients who are granted a resources exclusion such as that provided by the Partnership for Long-Term Care Act.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Medical Care Programs Administration), Insurance Administration

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 5, 1996

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