

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 532 (Senator Hollinger)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Referred to Environmental Matters

Nurse Psychotherapists - Authority to Prescribe and Dispense Drugs

This amended bill authorizes nurse psychotherapists to prescribe drugs commonly used in the practice of nurse psychotherapy and to personally prepare and dispense a sample or starter dosage of any drug the nurse psychotherapist is authorized to prescribe. Such an authorization from the Board of Nursing is predicated upon evidence of specified educational criteria having been met. Nurse psychotherapists who personally prepare and dispense drugs must allow the Division of Drug Control of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to inspect their offices at all reasonable hours.

A nurse psychotherapist may not (1) direct a patient to a specific pharmacy; or (2) receive remuneration from referring patients to a specific pharmacy. The Board of Nurses and the Board of Physician Quality Assurance are required to jointly adopt implementary regulations.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Board of Nursing and Mental Hygiene Administration), Department of Fiscal Services

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