

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 105 (Chairman, Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee)
(Departmental - Health and Mental Hygiene)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Reporting of Communicable Diseases

This departmental bill adds six diseases to a list of diseases that must be reported by a medical laboratory to local health officers.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Since there will be only a minor increase in reports received from laboratories, the bill's requirements can be handled with existing budgeted resources. Federal funds could increase by an indeterminate amount.

Local Effect: None. Since there will be only a minor increase in reports received from laboratories, the bill's requirements can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has determined that this bill has a minimal impact on small business. Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: The state's ability to attract federal funds for "emerging pathogens" surveillance could be enhanced by an indeterminate extent. It is not possible to reliably estimate the amount at this time.

State Expenditures: Since there will be only a minor increase in reports received from laboratories (through the local health departments), the bill's requirements can be handled with existing budgeted resources. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has

indicated that if there is any problem with handling increased workload within existing resources, it will prioritize the most important diseases to track and will focus resources on the priority diseases.

Local Expenditures: Since there will be only a minor increase in reports received from laboratories, the bill's requirements can be handled with existing budgeted resources. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has indicated that if there is any problem with handling any increased workload within existing resources, it will prioritize the most important diseases to track which will allow local health departments to focus resources on the priority diseases.

Local Revenues: No effect.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 15, 1996
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