

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 557 (Delegate Kelly, et al.)  
Environmental Matters

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**Health Care Access and Cost Commission - Medical Care Data Base Collection -  
Notice and Informed Consent**

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This bill requires that patients whose data is to be collected as part of the Health Care Access and Cost Commission's (HCACC) medical care data base be notified at the time of treatment that data will be collected. It prohibits data from being collected unless the patient (or a person authorized to consent to the patient's medical care) is notified and provides informed consent. The informed consent does not constitute a waiver of any privilege that would otherwise apply to the data and denial of consent may not be a basis for refusal of treatment by a health care practitioner or denial of payment by a payor. HCACC is required to adopt regulations governing the notice of medical data collection and informed consent. The bill further specifies that the demographic characteristics of the patient are to exclude the patient's month and day of birth.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill's requirements can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Background:** The Health Care Access and Cost Commission is required by statute (Health Care and Insurance Reform Act of 1993) to establish a medical care data base for non-hospital health services.

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**Information Source(s):** Health Care Access and Cost Commission, Insurance Administration, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 20, 1996

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