

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 661 (Delegates Morhaim and Guns)
Environmental Matters

Health Occupations - Patient Referrals

This bill prohibits a health care practitioner from referring a patient, or directing an employee to refer a patient, to a health care facility in which the practitioner's immediate family has a beneficial interest of 3% or more.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not change State finances or operations.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal effect on small businesses as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

Small Business Effect: Current law prohibits a practitioner from referring a patient to a health care facility owned by the practitioner's immediate family, regardless of the level of ownership interest. Any increase in referrals to some health care facilities as a result of this bill is expected to be negligible.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Boards and Commissions), Department of Fiscal Services

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