

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1045 (Delegate Watson, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Referred to Finance

Mental Hygiene Administration - Core Service Agencies - Procedure

This amended bill requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) to establish procedures that give community mental health programs regulated by the Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) the right to access a mediation process established by MHA and, if dissatisfied with the mediation outcome, to request a hearing with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Fiscal Summary

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

Local Effect: None.

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

Fiscal Analysis

Small Business Effect: Small business community service providers contracting with core service agencies could benefit by gaining the right to mediation and to appeal decisions to the Office of Administrative Hearings. The bill amends existing law pertaining to core service agencies. Core service agencies have clinical, fiscal, and administrative responsibility to develop a coordinated network of services for all public mental health clients in a local jurisdiction. The proposed fiscal 1998 budget includes \$150.7 million for core services agencies to purchase services from community service providers.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Mental Hygiene Administration), Office of Administrative Hearings

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 1997

ncs

Revised -House Third Reader - April 4, 1997

Analysis by: Sue Friedlander

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710