

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 529 (Senator Hollinger)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Physicians - Intractable Pain - Prescribing or Administering Controlled Dangerous Substances

This bill authorizes a physician to prescribe or administer a controlled dangerous substance to a patient in the course of a treatment for a diagnosed condition that is causing “intractable pain”. The bill does not authorize a physician to prescribe or administer a controlled dangerous substance to (1) patients being treated for a chemical dependency on drugs or controlled substances; or (2) individuals known by the physician to use drugs or controlled dangerous substances for nontherapeutic purposes.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill’s requirements could be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal. The bill would not materially affect a small business physician practice.

Information Source(s): Office of Administrative Hearings, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Board of Physician Quality Assurance), Department of Fiscal Services

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