

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 322 (Delegate Goldwater. *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Health Maintenance Organizations - Health Care Providers - Definition and Designation of Primary Care Providers

This bill allows non-physician licensed or certified health care providers to be chosen or designated as primary care providers in an HMO. The bill defines a primary care provider as: (1) the primary coordinator of care for an enrollee of an HMO; and (2) the individual responsible for providing accessible, continuous, comprehensive, and coordinated health care services for the enrollee.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Fiscal Analysis

Small Business Effect: If HMOs contract with additional non-physician health care providers as a result of this bill, it could lead to increased business activity for some of these small business health care providers. If, however, HMOs designate non-physician providers who are already under contract as primary care providers, there would be no impact.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Medical Care Policy Administration, Community and Public Health Administration, Board of Physician Quality Assurance); Department of Budget and Management; Insurance Administration; Department of Budget and Management

Fiscal Note History:

First Reader - February 17, 1998

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