

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 578 (Delegate R. Baker. *et al.*)

Judiciary

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Evidence - Records and Writings of Health Care Providers

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This amended bill provides that a writing or record of a “health care provider” is admissible in certain District Court and circuit court civil trials without the supporting testimony of a health care provider, if certain requirements are met. Under current law, a medical, dental, or hospital writing or record is admissible in certain District Court and circuit court civil trials without the supporting testimony of a physician, dentist, or hospital employee, if certain requirements are met.

The bill is to be construed prospectively only and may not be applied to any case filed before the October 1, 1998 effective date.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Potential minimal efficiency savings for the Judiciary, because the bill would provide for the admissibility of more types of records without authenticating testimony. No effect on revenues.

**Local Effect:** Potential minimal efficiency savings for the Judiciary, because the bill would provide for the admissibility of more types of records without authenticating testimony. No effect on revenues.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal efficiency savings for small health care businesses, which may be required to send employees to testify in court less frequently as a result of the bill.

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**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of

Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**

First Reader - February 23, 1998

Inc

Revised - House Third Reader - March 20, 1998

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