

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 811 (Delegate Barve)

Judiciary

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**Courts and Judicial Proceedings - Expert Witness - Physician**

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This bill provides that a physician may not be qualified as an expert witness to testify about the standard of care applicable to the practice of a medical specialty unless the witness:

- is a physician practicing in the same medical specialty and sub-specialty as the defendant (or practiced within the past two years in the same medical specialty and sub-specialty as the defendant prior to retirement);
- is board certified in the same medical specialty at issue in the case; and
- has demonstrated clinical experience in the same procedure at issue in the case.

The bill applies prospectively only.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill is not expected to significantly affect court workloads.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 25, 1999  
dmm/jr

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