

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 295 (Delegate Donoghue)

Economic Matters

Health Insurance - Carriers and Credentialing Intermediaries -
Uniform Credentialing Form

This bill creates a 15-member task force to select a uniform credentialing form by October 1, 1999. The bill requires insurers, nonprofit health service plans, HMOs, and dental plan organizations (carriers) to use the uniform credentialing form as the sole application for a health care provider to become credentialed or recredentialed for the carrier's provider panel.

The bill allows the Insurance Commissioner to impose a penalty not to exceed \$500 against any carrier or its credentialing intermediary for each violation of this provision. If the task force does not select a uniform credentialing form, the Insurance Commissioner must promulgate regulations that adopt a uniform credentialing form and require its use by carriers.

The task force provisions of the bill take effect June 1, 1999 and sunset on October 1, 1999.

The remaining provisions of the bill take effect January 1, 2000.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Expenses associated with staffing the task force, or developing a form if need be, can be handled with existing Maryland Insurance Administration resources. General fund revenues may increase by an indeterminate minimal amount as a result of the penalty provisions.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal. Administrative expenses for providers would decrease as a result of using one standardized form to apply for credentialing with a carrier.

Information Source(s): Maryland Insurance Administration, Department of Budget and Management (Employee Benefits Division), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 16, 1999

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