

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

1999 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

**Revised**

Senate Bill 178 (Senators Munson and Mooney)

Judicial Proceedings

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**Volunteer Health Care Providers and Physicians - Immunity - Insurance Coverage**

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This bill amends current law that relates to liability limitations for volunteer health care providers. Under current law, a volunteer health care provider may be liable for damages up to the limit of insurance coverage. A volunteer health care provider is not liable for damages in excess of the limit of insurance coverage unless the volunteer health care provider's act constitutes willful misconduct, gross negligence, or an intentional tort. The bill provides that volunteer health care providers are immune from suit, regardless of insurance coverage, unless their acts constitute willful misconduct, gross negligence, or an intentional tort.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. This bill does not directly affect governmental finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Information Source(s):** Maryland Insurance Administration, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Board of Physician Quality Assurance), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**

First Reader - February 11, 1999

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Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 29, 1999

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Analysis by: Susan John

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 946-5510

(301) 970-5510