

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Joint Resolution 9 (Delegate Nathan-Pulliam. *et al.*)
Environmental Matters

Prevention of Hypertension, Diabetes Mellitus, and Heart Disease Through Obesity Awareness, Risk Assessment, and Treatment

This joint resolution provides that the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) shall study the relationship between obesity and the risk of hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and heart diseases. The study must be used to assess the risks and costs of treating obesity-related illnesses for Medicaid patients. In addition, the study must make recommendations regarding strategies for increasing awareness of the risks associated with obesity, treatment protocols, and the delivery of health care to uninsured individuals and individuals enrolled in the Medicaid program who are at risk. The study must be reported to the legislature prior to the 2001 legislative session.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Compliance with this joint resolution would increase general fund expenditures by \$200,000 to \$500,000. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: Expenditures for the study would depend on the scope of the study and the availability of existing data and studies on the subject that would be applicable to the targeted population. Based on the State's experience with other studies that have been conducted by outside experts, it is estimated that the cost could range from \$200,000 to \$500,000. The cost, presumably, would be spread over fiscal 1999 through 2001 in order to

meet the bill's requirement of completion prior to January 2001.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Community and Public Health Administration, Medical Care Policy Administration), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 2, 1999
mld/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 30, 1999

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