

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1321 (Delegate C. Davis)

Environmental Matters

Developmental Disabilities Administration - Individuals with Mental Disorders

This bill provides that if the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) finds that an individual would be provided for more appropriately in a program of care for individuals with mental disorders, DDA may: (1) directly provide care; (2) contract with a private provider for care; or (3) ask the Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) to accept the individual in a State residential center for appropriate care. MHA must determine whether the direct provision of care by or through a private contractor or transferring the individual to a mental health program is appropriate.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill codifies existing practice/procedure of review and transfer of patients between programs.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: DDA may ask MHA to accept primary responsibility for an individual in or eligible for admission to a State residential center if DDA finds that the individual would be provided for more appropriately in a program for individuals with mental disorders. MHA must determine whether transfer to a mental health program is appropriate and the individual must be given an opportunity for a hearing on the proposed transfer. In a dispute over the proposed transfer of an individual from a DDA to an MHA facility, it must be resolved in accordance with procedures set by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental

Hygiene, upon the request of either DDA or MHA.

Background: DHMH advises that at the beginning of fiscal 2000, there were 70 individuals in this situation. Six have left State hospitals and are receiving DDA-funded services, seven have planned community placements by June 1, 2000, and 14 more have been determined to require more services than DDA is able to provide. The remaining cases are under review. In the past two years, DDA has averaged 15 placements out of MHA facilities each year at a cost ranging from \$80,000 to \$150,000 per person per year.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Developmental Disabilities Administration, Mental Hygiene Administration), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 14, 2000
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