

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1232 (Delegate Cane. *et al.*)
Environmental Matters

**Task Force to Study the Health Care Needs of Inmates in Transition from
Correctional Institutions**

This bill establishes a 20-member task force to study the health care needs of inmates in transition from correctional institutions. The task force must submit a final report of its findings, recommendations, and comprehensive strategy to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31, 2001.

The bill is effective July 1, 2000 and sunsets on December 31, 2001.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursements for task force members and staffing costs for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) and appropriate State and local units are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The task force must study the health care needs of inmates in transition from correctional institutions by: (1) examining the scope of the problem of released inmates with health care needs and the number of programs that exist to address the problem; (2) collecting data to determine the correlation between the commission of crimes and health care needs for specific conditions -- diabetes, HIV, viral hepatitis, substance abuse addiction, and sexually transmitted diseases; (3) determining the accessibility of health care programs

for released inmates with the specified conditions; (4) examining the availability of health care programs designed for recently released inmates and the program outcomes in relation to the length of stay in the program; (5) examining the availability of medication for recently released inmates with the specified conditions; (6) examining the statewide availability of health insurance coverage for treatment of recently released inmates; (7) making recommendations to increase the long- and short-term availability of health care programs for released inmates; and (8) taking any other action necessary and proper to carry out the purpose of the bill.

DHMH, in cooperation with other appropriate State and local units, will provide staff for the task force to the extent possible within existing budgeted resources.

Current Law: None applicable.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Mental Hygiene Administration, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration, Community and Public Health Administration), Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Correction), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 8, 2000
cm/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 24, 2000

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