

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 1115 (Delegate Dvorski)

Environmental Matters

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Pharmacies - Record Logs

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This bill authorizes a pharmacy to maintain a record log of any prescription that is requested to be filled or refilled by a patient. If a patient's record contains the patient's Social Security number, the pharmacy must keep the number confidential, and may not list in the record log the illness, disability, or condition that is the basis of the drug dispensed. The pharmacy may not list a patient's Social Security number, illness, disability, condition, or type of drug dispensed in the record log if the log is available to other pharmacy customers.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill would not materially affect governmental finances or operations.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal. Some pharmacies maintain record logs by requiring a patient to sign a log book when picking up a prescription. A pharmacy that uses a patient's Social Security number as an identifier in this log book would have to change administrative practices to comply with the bill's confidentiality requirements. In addition, a pharmacy may have to make computer programming changes to ensure patient confidentiality. As a result, pharmacy administrative costs may increase. Any increase is expected to be negligible.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The use of record logs by pharmacies is not addressed in statute, although record log use is common practice in pharmacies.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Board of Pharmacy),  
Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 24, 2000  
drg/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 28, 2000

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