

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1289 (Delegate Conway, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

**Infectious Disease Notification -
Disclosure of Name of Contagious Deceased Person**

This bill requires that the medical examiner's written confirmation of contact exposure with a contagious disease or virus by a first responder to a medical emergency include the name of the deceased person with the contagious disease or virus. This disclosure is only to be made under the condition that the name be kept confidential between the employer or the employer's designee and the exposed first responder to protect the confidentiality of the deceased person.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The change would not directly affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: When a first responder to a medical emergency comes into contact exposure while treating or transporting a deceased person who is subsequently determined to have had a contagious disease or virus, the medical examiner must notify the first responder and the first responder's employer of the possible contact exposure within 48 hours of confirmation. The notification must include a subsequent written confirmation of the possible contact exposure and be conducted in such a manner as to protect the confidentiality of the deceased person. The name of the deceased person is not required as part of the notification.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (AIDS Administration, Board of Nursing, Board of Physician Quality Administration, Office of the Medical Examiner), Maryland Institute of Emergency Medical Services System, Department of Legislative Services

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drg/jr

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