

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 770 (Delegate Griffith, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Mental Hygiene - Emergency Evaluation - Clinical Social Worker

This bill authorizes a clinical social worker to petition for an emergency evaluation of an individual and have that petition enforced by a peace officer without court approval.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's changes would not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A petition for emergency evaluation of an individual may be made by: a physician, psychologist, or health officer or designee of a health officer who has examined the individual; a peace officer who personally has observed the individual; or any other interested person. A petitioner who is a physician, psychologist, or health officer or designee of a health officer must give the petition to a peace officer who will take the emergency evaluatee to the nearest emergency facility. If the petitioner is not a physician, psychologist, health officer or designee of a health officer, or a peace officer, the petitioner must present the petition to the court for immediate review.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: A similar bill was introduced during the 2000 session as HB 746 and received an unfavorable report by the House Environmental Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – March 5, 2001
jm/jr

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