

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE**Revised**

House Bill 688

(Delegate Barve)

Economic Matters

Finance

**Maryland Health Care Commission - Health Maintenance Organizations -
Information Regarding Behavioral Health Services**

This bill requires the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) to include performance information from HMO enrollees regarding satisfaction with behavioral health services in MHCC's annual comprehensive performance report on HMOs.

Implementation of the bill is contingent upon an increase to \$10 million in the total allowable fees assessed by MHCC in any fiscal year. If the fee limit is not increased, MHCC must notify the Department of Legislative Services by June 1, 2001.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: MHCC special fund revenues and expenditures could each increase by \$200,000 in FY 2002. Future year expenditures and revenues remain constant.

(in dollars)	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
SF Revenue	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
SF Expenditure	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Net Effect	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: MHCC must comparatively evaluate the quality of care outcomes and performance measurements of HMOs and annually publish the summary findings of the evaluation. In doing so, MHCC must solicit performance information from HMO enrollees. MHCC is not required to include enrollee information on behavioral health services.

State Fiscal Effect: MHCC would collect enrollee information on behavioral health services through its annual Consumer Assessment of Health Plans Study (CAHPS). This survey elicits feedback from HMO enrollees about experiences and satisfaction with the care they received from their HMO. Adding the behavioral health services requirement to its annual CAHPS survey would cost \$200,000 annually beginning in fiscal 2002 and each year thereafter. Surveying patient satisfaction on behavioral health issues requires developing separate performance measures and targeting a different population than those traditionally surveyed for HMO patient satisfaction.

MHCC is specially funded through fees imposed on payors and providers. As a result of the increase in expenditures, MHCC would raise provider fees by an amount to exactly offset the increase in expenditures.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Maryland Health Care Commission, Medicaid), Department of Legislative Services

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