

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

FISCAL NOTESenate Joint Resolution 8 (Senator Pinsky, *et al.*)

Finance

Health Care for All Marylanders

This joint resolution states that the Maryland General Assembly is committed to implementing public policy that will provide affordable, quality health care coverage for all Marylanders and that a public/private partnership is encouraged. The joint resolution establishes a Panel on Comprehensive Health Care to study the best approaches to providing affordable, quality health care coverage for all Marylanders and to report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2002. The Maryland Health Care Commission will staff the panel.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursements for the panel members and staffing costs for the Maryland Health Care Commission are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: There is no provision for a panel to study comprehensive health care for all Marylanders. However, the Maryland Health Care Foundation is a nonprofit organization established to promote public awareness of the need to provide more timely and cost-effective care for Marylanders without health insurance and to receive moneys

that can be used to provide financial support to programs that expand access to health care services for uninsured Marylanders.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: A similar resolution (SJ 5) was introduced in the 2000 session. It passed the Senate with amendments, but was reported unfavorably from the House Economic Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Health Care Commission, Medicaid, Health Services Cost Review Commission, Board of Physician Quality Assurance), Maryland Insurance Administration, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 11, 2001
ef/jr

Analysis by: Susan D. John

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510