

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 941

(Delegate Nathan-Pulliam)

Environmental Matters

Maryland Kidney Disease Program Advisory Committee

This bill establishes a 25-member Maryland Kidney Disease Program Advisory Committee within the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH).

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursements for committee members are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources. It is expected that DHMH could provide staff support to the committee with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The advisory committee must: (1) advise the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene on the program's implementation, operation, and evaluation; (2) review and make recommendations on the regulations regarding the program's certification process; (3) review and make recommendations on program material; (4) collect contact data to monitor the program's interaction with recipients; (5) review program data; (6) promote the dissemination of program information; and (7) assist DHMH in evaluating the program.

The advisory committee must report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1 of each year. DHMH must staff the advisory committee.

Current Law: The DHMH Kidney Disease Program funds kidney disease treatment for qualified individuals who elect to enroll in the program and agree to pay the required fees for services. An individual is eligible for benefits if DHMH determines that the individual has chronic kidney disease and the individual meets the residency, citizenship, and other nonmedical eligibility requirements. DHMH certifies individuals to receive assistance under the program for one year, which is renewable for one-year periods.

The 12-member State Commission on Kidney Disease is charged with annually evaluating the Kidney Disease Program and submitting a report of the evaluation to the Governor. The commission also must adopt reasonable medical standards for the acceptance of an individual for treatment.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 6, 2002
mld/cer

Analysis by: Lisa A. Daigle

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