

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 331

(Senator Hollinger)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Environmental Matters

**Assisted Living Programs - Implementation of Regulations Concerning Survey
and Complaint Reporting**

This bill requires an assisted living facility to conspicuously post in a public place accessible to actual and potential patients the following material: (1) the facility's statement of deficiencies for the most recent survey; (2) any subsequent complaint investigations conducted by federal, State, or local surveyors; and (3) any plans of correction in effect. If the facility does not post these items, it must post a notice of their location. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) must incorporate this requirement into regulations.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The adoption of regulations could be handled with existing DHMH resources. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: An assisted living program is a residential or facility-based program that provides housing and supportive services, supervision, personalized assistance, health-related services, or a combination of these services to meet the needs of residents who are unable to perform, or who need assistance in performing, the activities of daily living or instrumental activities of daily living.

The Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) within DHMH is responsible for the licensure and regulation of assisted living programs. OHCQ conducts at least annual inspections (surveys) of assisted living facilities to ensure compliance with regulations. If a complaint investigation or survey inspection identifies a regulatory violation, OHCQ may issue a deficiency statement against the facility: (1) citing the violation; (2) requiring the facility to submit an acceptable plan of correction, including the date by which the facility must make the correction; and (3) notifying the facility that failure to correct the violation could result in sanctions.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Office of Health Care Quality), Department of Aging, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 6, 2002
ncs/cer Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 22, 2002

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