

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 738

(Senator Ruben)

Finance

Environmental Matters

Task Force on the Reform of the Public Mental Health System in Maryland

This bill creates a 13-member Task Force on the Reform of the Public Mental Health System in Maryland to study and make recommendations regarding the feasibility of reforming the State mental health system. The Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) will provide staff for the task force. Its findings and recommendations are due to the Governor and the General Assembly before December 1, 2004. The bill sunsets November 30, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursements for task force members and staffing costs for MHA are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: An 18-member Maryland Advisory Council advises MHA generally on mental hygiene law and is a strong advocate of a comprehensive, broad-based approach to the social, economic, and medical problems of mental hygiene. Each county must establish a mental health advisory committee to serve as an advocate for a comprehensive mental health system for persons of all ages. The governing bodies of two or more counties may establish, by agreement, an intercounty mental health advisory committee.

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 4, 2002
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