

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2003 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 1062 (Delegates Oaks and Redmer)  
Health and Government Operations

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**Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants - Treatment - Number of Patients**

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This bill allows a physical therapist to evaluate and/or treat no more than four patients per clinical treatment hour, excluding group therapy. A physical therapy assistant may treat no more than four patients per clinical treatment hour, excluding group therapy.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill would not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful impact for any physical therapists and physical therapy assistants who work in a private practice and could see an additional patient each hour.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Under State regulations, a physical therapist may not evaluate and/or treat more than three patients per clinical treatment hour, excluding group therapy. A physical therapy assistant may not treat more than three patients per clinical treatment hour, excluding group therapy.

**Background:** There are 7,726 licensed physical therapists and 1,868 licensed physical therapy assistants in Maryland.

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### **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 13, 2003  
ncs/jr

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