

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 952 (Delegate Barve)  
Health and Government Operations

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Hospitals - Medical Residency Education Programs - Resident and Intern Duty Hours

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This bill requires each hospital that offers a medical residency education program to comply with duty hour requirements for medical residents and interns established by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. In addition, a hospital must develop and implement policies that provide medical residents with an opportunity to sleep for a minimum of four hours within each 24-hour time period that the resident is on duty.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill would not materially affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** There are no statutory limitations placed on duty hours for medical residents at teaching hospitals.

**Background:** The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education has developed duty hour standards for medical residents. In general, they cap hours for physicians in training at 80 hours per week, limit continuous duty time to 24 hours, require rest periods between duty shifts, and one day in seven must be free of any program responsibilities.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Office of Health Care Quality), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 27, 2004  
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