

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1513 (Delegate Love) (Chairman, Anne Arundel County Delegation)
 Health and Government Operations and Appropriations Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Budget and Taxation

Community-Based Mental Health Services - Funding

The bill requires the Governor to include a general fund appropriation of at least \$5 million for community-based mental health services in the annual budget beginning in fiscal 2006. Of this amount, \$4 million must be provided in the Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) budget to support the expansion of community mental health services in Anne Arundel, Prince George’s, Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary’s counties according to a plan developed under the Anne Arundel County Health Department’s leadership and submitted to MHA. The remaining \$1 million must be provided to continue the community supports for patient’s discharged from Crownsville Hospital.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: No effect in FY 2005. Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) general fund expenditures would increase by \$5.0 million beginning in FY 2006 to provide community-based mental health services. No effect on revenues.

(\$ in millions)	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Net Effect	\$0	(\$5.0)	(\$5.0)	(\$5.0)	(\$5.0)

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Significant increase in revenues for community-based mental health service providers in Anne Arundel, Prince George’s, Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary’s counties.

Analysis

Current Law: DHMH's Director of Mental Hygiene must, with local core service agencies, develop and implement each comprehensive mental health plan which identifies the needs of all individuals with a serious mental disorder who are targeted for services in the "Comprehensive Mental Health Services Plan" submitted by the State to the federal government. Each comprehensive plan must be implemented to the extent that resources are available.

Background: Recently, DHMH has considered closing a State mental health facility due to low utilization of inpatient mental health services. Over the past 21 years, utilization has decreased from 4,390 beds to 1,204 in the State's various psychiatric facilities. In 2003, DHMH explored the feasibility of closing one of three facilities: Crownsville, Spring Grove, or Springfield, and has decided to close Crownsville Hospital Center, located in Anne Arundel County, by June 30, 2004. The Governor's proposed fiscal 2005 budget assumes the hospital's closure, along with the resulting \$11.8 million savings. About \$5 million of this savings is redirected toward community-based treatment programs, and \$6.8 million was removed from the budget.

State Expenditures: No effect in fiscal 2005. DHMH general fund expenditures would increase by \$5 million annually beginning in fiscal 2006 for community-based mental health services.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 22, 2004
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