

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 499

(Senator Lawlah, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Health and Government Operations

**State Council on Cancer Control - Cervical Cancer Committee of the Maryland
Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan**

This bill establishes a Cervical Cancer Committee of the Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan staffed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH). The task force's duties include: (1) collaborating with DHMH and the State Council on Cancer Control to promote public awareness on the causes, nature, detection, treatment, and prevention of cervical cancer; (2) identifying and examining the limitations of existing programs, services, laws, and regulations with respect to cervical cancer awareness and the availability of health insurance coverage and public services for cervical cancer diagnosis and treatment; (3) developing a statewide Cervical Cancer Prevention Plan; and (4) facilitating coordination and communication among State and local agencies and organizations to achieve the plan's goals. The committee must present its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 1 of each year, beginning in 2004, in the annual report of the State Council on Cancer Control. The bill takes effect July 1, 2004 and terminates June 30, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures could increase by \$112,500 in FY 2005. Future years reflect annualization and inflation. No effect on revenues.

(in dollars)	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	112,500	151,500	153,000	154,500	156,100
Net Effect	(\$112,500)	(\$151,500)	(\$153,000)	(\$154,500)	(\$156,100)

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

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A Cancer Prevention, Education, Screening, and Treatment Program exists under DHMH to coordinate the State's use of the Cigarette Restitution Fund for public health initiatives that reduce mortality and morbidity rates for cancer and tobacco-related diseases in the State.

A Breast Cancer Program exists under DHMH to: (1) provide at least biennial screening mammograms and clinical breast examinations to low-income uninsured and low-income, underinsured women age 40 to 49; (2) provide biennial screening mammograms and clinical breast examinations to low-income, underinsured and low-income, uninsured women age 50 and older; and (3) provide diagnosis and treatment for people identified by the program as being in need.

Background: DHMH received a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grant in 2002 to develop a comprehensive control plan. Since then, DHMH has formed 14 subcommittees to accomplish this goal, as well as coordinated efforts with partnering organizations across Maryland. The Cervical Cancer Committee was one of the subcommittees created. DHMH advises that there is one staff member coordinating all the activities under the CDC grant.

DHMH applied for a \$310,000 CDC grant to implement its overall cancer plan. The department will learn in June 2004 whether it will receive these federal funds for fiscal 2005. While DHMH expects to receive these funds, the department cannot specify what portion might be spent on cervical cancer awareness activities as opposed to implementing other aspects of the comprehensive control plan. DHMH can apply for the same CDC grant again and believes it could receive approximately \$300,000 in grants each in fiscal 2006 and 2007.

Cervical cancer is one of the most common cancers of women's reproductive organs. A majority of the cases are caused by a sexually transmitted infection, the human papillomavirus (HPV). Most women's immune system response prevents the virus from harming them when they are exposed to HPV. The virus survives in some women before changing some cervical cells into cancer cells. Pap test screening can detect cervical cancer. More than 12,000 women annually are diagnosed with invasive cervical cancer and approximately 4,000 women die of the disease each year. Risk factors for developing cervical cancer are: having many sexual partners; having first sexual intercourse before age 18; having other sexually transmitted diseases; and cigarette smoking.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures could increase by an estimated \$112,500 in fiscal 2005, which accounts for a 90-day start-up delay. This estimate reflects the cost of contractual services to promote cervical cancer awareness by developing educational messages, public service announcements, newsletters, and health care provider education activities and/or materials.

To the extent that these CDC grant funds are used on cervical cancer awareness activities in fiscal 2005, 2006, and 2007, general fund expenditures could decrease.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1067 (Delegate McIntosh, *et al.*) – Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 1, 2004
mh/jr Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 30, 2004
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