

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 267

(Delegate Hubbard, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations

This bill extends the termination date for the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations' from May 31, 2005 to May 31, 2008.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2005.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Maintaining this commission beyond FY 2005 would not materially affect the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (DHMH) finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 337 of 2002 established the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations. The commission must: (1) determine where community vaccine shortages exist and which vaccines are in short supply; (2) develop a recommendation for a plan to equitably distribute vaccines; and (3) study and make recommendations about other related issues. The commission also must report on its findings and recommendations by December 15 each year to the Governor; the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee; and the Environmental Matters Committee.

DHMH must staff the commission. The Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, along with the State Board of Education, must assist DHMH with adopting rules and regulations regarding the immunizations and blood tests for lead poisoning required of children entering schools.

Background: In the commission's 2003 annual report, it conducted an analysis of vaccine shortages in the State to treat influenza and pneumococcal disease. The report included causes of supply disruptions, vaccine demand, steps taken to deal with shortages, and supply forecasts. The commission did not issue a 2004 annual report.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: SB 788 of 2002 (Chapter 337) established the commission.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; *Annual Report Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations*, Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations, December 2003; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 9, 2005
l/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 23, 2005

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