

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 203 (Delegate Benson)

Health and Government Operations

Finance

Joint Committee on Access to Mental Health Services - Membership

This bill expands the membership of the Joint Committee on Access to Mental Health Services from 8 to 10 members by adding a member of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and a member of the House Judiciary Committee.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's changes could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The joint committee monitors access to public mental health services for eligible individuals and medically necessary mental health services for individuals covered by private insurance. An annual report on systemic barriers to accessing mental health services and recommendations for mitigating those barriers must be submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly.

The joint committee consists of four senators and four delegates. The senators include two members of the Finance Committee, one member of the Budget and Taxation Committee, and one member of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee. The delegates include two members of the Health and Government Operations Committee, one member of the Appropriations Committee, and one member of the Economic Matters Committee. The Department of Legislative Services staffs the committee.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 24, 2006
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