

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 273

(Senator Middleton)

Finance

Appropriations

State Personnel - Certificate of Illness or Disability - Medical Technicians and Signatures

This bill authorizes a medical technician who performed a test under the direction of a physician authorized to practice medicine or surgery to sign an original certificate of illness or disability for a State Personnel Management System (SPMS) employee. The medical technician must attach to the certificate a copy of the medical doctor's order or prescription for the test performed. Additionally, the bill stipulates that either a signature or facsimile of a signature provided by an employee of a medical provider, with the medical provider's approval, are both acceptable as a signature on the certificate.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's changes are technical in nature and would not materially impact State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: SPMS employees who use sick leave for at least five consecutive workdays for personal illness or disability or that of an immediate family member may not receive payment unless the employee gives his or her immediate supervisor an original certificate of illness or disability. This certificate must be signed by either a physician authorized to practice medicine or surgery, an accredited Christian Science

practitioner, a health care provider as provided by the federal Family Medical Leave Act, or one of the following if authorized to practice and performing within the scope of that authority:

- a chiropractor;
- a clinical psychologist;
- a dentist;
- a licensed certified social worker – clinical;
- a nurse midwife;
- a nurse practitioner;
- an oral surgeon;
- an optometrist;
- a physical therapist; or
- a podiatrist.

The certificate of illness or disability must include a prognosis about the employee's ability to return to work.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 6, 2006
mam/ljm Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 21, 2006

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