

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2006 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 1574

(Delegate Hubbard, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Finance

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**Medicaid Advisory Committee - Medical Assistance Program - Amendments and Waiver Applications**

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This bill specifies that if the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) applies for a Medicaid waiver or modifies or amends an existing waiver, DHMH must submit the application or amendment to the Medicaid Advisory Committee for discussion at a Medicaid Advisory Committee Meeting. DHMH must submit a copy of the amendment to the Medicaid Advisory Committee no later than five business days after DHMH submits the amendment to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Submission of applications or amendments to the Medicaid Advisory Committee could be handled with existing DHMH budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** If DHMH applies for a Medicaid waiver or modifies or amends an existing Medicaid waiver, DHMH must give notice of the application by publication in the Maryland Register. For 30 days following publication, DHMH must make the waiver application available to the public during business hours and provide an opportunity to receive public comments.

**Background:** In order to expand or modify coverage under Medicaid, Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP), or certain other programs that are eligible for federal funding, DHMH must apply to CMS for: (1) an amendment to the Medicaid State Plan (under 1931(b) of the Social Security Act); (2) a Section 1115 waiver to implement a demonstration project (such as MCHP), which permits a state to expand eligibility criteria for those who would otherwise not be eligible for Medicaid coverage; or (3) an amendment to an existing waiver program.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 17, 2006  
ncs/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 28, 2006  
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Analysis by: Susan D. John

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510