

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2007 Session

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

House Bill 367

(Delegate Nathan-Pulliam, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Finance

---

**Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Primary Adult Care Program -  
Enrollment in a Managed Care Organization**

---

This bill requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) to provide certain continuity of care for individuals transitioning between the Maryland Primary Adult Care Program (MPAC) and the HealthChoice Program.

The bill requires DHMH has to adopt regulations that establish a process through which individuals enrolled in Medicaid within 120 days of becoming eligible for MPAC must be automatically enrolled in the same MCO in which the individual was enrolled under HealthChoice.

The bill further provides that if an individual was enrolled in MPAC within 120 days of becoming eligible for Medicaid, the individual must be automatically enrolled in the same MCO he/she were enrolled in under MPAC.

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill's requirements could be handled within existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None

**Small Business Effect:** None.

---

## Analysis

**Current Law/Background:** HealthChoice is Maryland's Medicaid managed care program and provides health care to 79% of Medicaid recipients. Eligible recipients enroll in an MCO of their choice and select a primary care provider to oversee their medical care. If an individual is disenrolled and reenrolls in HealthChoice within 120 days, DHMH must assign the individual to the same MCO in which the recipient was previously enrolled.

MCOs are responsible for providing or arranging for the full range of health care services for HealthChoice enrollees. Currently seven MCOs participate in HealthChoice: UnitedHealthcare, Helix Family Choice, Maryland Physicians Care, Priority Partners, JAI Medical Systems, AMERIGROUP Community Care, and Diamond Plan.

MPAC provides individuals with incomes below 116% of federal poverty guidelines (in 2007, \$11,844 of an individual, \$15,880 for a family of two, and \$19,917 for a family of three) with access to primary care, mental health services, and prescription drugs. MPAC replaces the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program which offered only prescription drug coverage. As of December 2006, MPAC enrollment was 23,241.

---

## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 12, 2007  
ncs/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 21, 2007

---

Analysis by: Jennifer B. Chasse

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