

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2008 Session

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

House Bill 551

(Delegate Donoghue)

Health and Government Operations

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Pharmacists - Administration of Vaccinations - Expanded Authority**

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This bill authorizes a pharmacist to administer a pneumococcal pneumonia or herpes zoster vaccination to an adult who has a prescription from a physician. The pharmacist must inform the prescribing physician that the vaccination has been administered and the vaccination has to be administered according to regulations adopted by the boards of Pharmacy, Physicians, and Nursing. In addition, if the prescribing physician is not the patient's primary care physician, the pharmacist also has to make a reasonable effort to inform the primary care physician that the vaccination has been administered.

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**Fiscal Summary**

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Pharmacists who administer additional vaccinations to individuals under the bill could see a minimal increase in revenues.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** A pharmacist can administer an influenza vaccination to an individual, in accordance with regulations set jointly by the Board of Pharmacy, Board of Physicians, and Board of Nursing. The Board of Pharmacy also sets the fees for administration of a vaccination.

**Background:** According to DHMH, there are 8,080 pharmacists in the State.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** SB 717 (Senator Klausmeier) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 3, 2008  
mcp/ljm Revised - House Third Reader - March 25, 2008  
Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 22, 2008

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