

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 717

(Senator Klausmeier)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Health and Government Operations

Pharmacists - Administration of Vaccinations - Expanded Authority

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.

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.

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.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 551 (Delegate Donoghue) – Health and Government Operations.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 2008
mcp/ljm Revised - Senate Third Reader - April 1, 2008

Analysis by: Sarah K. Harvey

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