

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 305

(Senator King, *et al.*)

Finance

Health and Government Operations

Mortality and Quality Review Committee - Sunset Extension and Membership

This bill extends the termination date on a requirement for the Mortality and Quality Review Committee to submit specific reports regarding incidents of injury and quality of care and for the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) to provide the committee with specified data necessary for the reports from September 30, 2009 to December 31, 2012. The bill also removes the Deputy Secretary of Public Health from the committee's membership, and adds the Deputy Secretary of Behavioral Health and Disabilities.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill has no impact on State finances. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) currently handles the additional duties and reporting requirements with existing resources and will continue to do so.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Chapter 268 of 2006 changed the name of the Mortality Review Committee to the Mortality and Quality Review Committee within DHMH and added duties for the committee. The committee consists of 18 members.

Additional duties include the review of aggregate incident data regarding facilities or programs that are licensed or operated by the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) or are operating through a waiver. The committee makes recommendations to the

Secretary of Disabilities to prevent avoidable injuries and avoidable deaths and improve quality of care in those facilities.

OHCQ provides aggregate incident data to the committee every three months. Through the data provided, OHCQ identifies trends that may threaten the health, safety, or well-being of any individual. The committee reviews the data, makes findings and recommendations to the department on system quality assurance needs, and may consult with experts as needed. The committee may issue preliminary findings or recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Secretary of Disabilities, the Director of DDA, the Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration, or the Director of OHCQ.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 93 (Delegate Costa) - Health and Government Operations.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 2, 2009
mcp/mwc Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 27, 2009

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