

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1107 (Delegate McComas, *et al.*)
Health and Government Operations

Health - Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease

This bill establishes a Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease, staffed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), to survey current Alzheimer's disease research and the practices used and approaches taken in the State regarding the disease and to make recommendations regarding the steps the State should take in dealing with Alzheimer's disease. The task force must report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by September 30, 2011.

The bill terminates September 30, 2011.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Given the State's fiscal difficulties, agency budgets have been constrained. Thus, the requirement to staff the task force, survey research and current practices, and then report recommendations is not absorbable within the existing budgeted resources of DHMH. Instead, general fund expenditures increase minimally in FY 2010, 2011, and 2012 for contractual staff to conduct research and submit the required report. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A number of programs, task forces, and councils address specific diseases and conditions. Some examples include the Asthma Control Program, the

Osteoporosis Prevention and Education Task Force, the Kidney Disease Program, and the State Advisory Council on Hereditary and Congenital Disorders.

Background: Alzheimer's disease is a progressive and fatal brain disease for which there is no known cure. An estimated five million Americans are living with Alzheimer's nationwide, which destroys brain cells and causes memory problems. It is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 6, 2009
ncs/mwc

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