

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2011 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 97 (Delegate Eckardt)  
 Health and Government Operations

**Behavioral Health - Integration of Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Services**

This bill requires the Deputy Secretary of Behavioral Health and Disabilities to convene a workgroup in order to develop a plan to integrate the provision of mental health and addiction treatment services. The workgroup must report its findings and recommendations by January 1, 2012.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2011.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$65,000 in FY 2012 for contractual services associated with completing the required study and report. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	65,000	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$65,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect*

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Bill Summary:** In developing the plan, the workgroup must:

- identify methods to integrate the provision of mental health and addiction treatment services at the local level;
- examine the funding of mental health services and addiction treatment; and
- make recommendations regarding its findings, including recommendations to streamline funding for mental health and addiction treatment services.

The workgroup must report its findings and recommendations by January 1, 2012, to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

**Background:** The integration of mental health and addiction treatment services is recognized as a means of treating individuals with co-occurring disorders (formerly known as dual diagnoses). In a report published in October 2010, a workgroup convened by the Maryland Health Care Reform Coordinating Council (HCRCC) suggested that the State study different strategies to achieve the integration of not only mental health and substance abuse treatment but also somatic services. The workgroup advised that such a study should address:

- statewide administrative structures, policies, and budget considerations relevant to the coordination of care;
- local resource planning activities needed to encourage collaboration; and
- potential changes to the delivery system that might improve coordination and patient care.

HCRCC was authorized by the Governor by executive order in 2010 to advise the Administration on policies and procedures necessary to implement, as efficiently and effectively as possible, the recent and future federal health care reform.

**State Fiscal Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$65,000 in fiscal 2012 for contractual services associated with conducting a high-level, unbiased study and convening a workgroup on the integration of mental health and addiction treatment services. Specifically, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene advises that it will utilize contractual services to (1) examine how other states have acted regarding this issue; (2) ensure compliance with State and federal laws and regulations relevant to funding; and (3) review current operations and make unbiased recommendations as to potential changes in operations.

## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** *Public Health, Safety Net, and Special Populations Workgroup Report* (Health Care Reform Coordinating Council); Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 4, 2011  
mc/mwc

---

Analysis by: Jennifer A. Ellick

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