

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 377 (Chair, Health and Government Operations
Committee)(By Request - Departmental - Health and
Mental Hygiene)

Health and Government Operations

Finance

Mental Hygiene Administration Facilities - Repeal of Provisions that Relate to
Closed Facilities

This departmental bill repeals provisions of law relating to three Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) facilities that have closed: Crownsville Hospital Center; Regional Institutes for Children and Adolescents (RICA) – Southern Maryland; and Walter P. Carter Center.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small businesses (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Three institutions have ceased to be funded and are no longer facilities under MHA: Crownsville Hospital Center (in 2007); RICA – Southern Maryland (in 2008); and Walter P. Carter Center (in 2009). These closures have occurred as State-operated psychiatric facilities have confronted a number of challenges, including (1) an increasingly forensic patient population; (2) declining admissions; (3) staff shortages; and (4) aging facilities that are, in some cases, vestiges of an era of institutional care in which thousands of patients filled each psychiatric hospital campus.

State-run psychiatric facilities that continue to operate under MHA include Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center, Eastern Shore Hospital Center, RICA – Baltimore, RICA – Rockville, Springfield Hospital Center, Spring Grove Hospital Center, and Thomas B. Finan Hospital Center.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 144 (Chair, Finance Committee)(By Request - Departmental - Health and Mental Hygiene) - Finance.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 7, 2011
mc/mwc

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Mental Hygiene Administration Facilities – Repeal of Provisions
That Relate to Closed Facilities

BILL NUMBER: HB 377

PREPARED BY: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL
BUSINESS

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL
BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

The proposed legislation will have no impact on small business in Maryland.