

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2020 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

Senate Bill 453

(Senator Pinsky, *et al.*)

Finance

Health and Government Operations

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**Maryland Department of Health – Children With Mental Disorders – List of Available Services**

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This bill requires the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to maintain an updated list of the specific services available to a child in the State who has a mental disorder in each of the following categories: (1) psychiatric rehabilitation services; (2) therapeutic services; (3) care coordination services; and (4) home health aide services. The list must include services available to any child who has a mental disorder and who is enrolled in Medicaid or has health insurance coverage. MDH must establish a method by which a person may request the list through the MDH website and make the list available either through that method or through any other means.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill's requirements can likely be handled within existing budgeted resources, as discussed below. Revenues are not affected.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** The bill creates a new requirement for MDH to create and maintain a specific list for children with mental disorders.

For services available to any child who has a mental disorder and who is enrolled in Medicaid, Medicaid's Administrative Service Organization (ASO) maintains a directory

of all Medicaid providers of behavioral health services, including psychiatric rehabilitation services, therapeutic behavioral health services, and case management services. The website maintained by the ASO allows an enrollee to search for a behavioral health service by location or service type. Most insurance companies also have similar provider directories.

The Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) within MDH currently maintains a list of licensed providers and the services that each provider is licensed to provide. However, BHA does not track if a licensed provider is enrolled in Medicaid or accepts commercial health insurance.

**State Expenditures:** Given that BHA already maintains a list of licensed providers and the services offered by each provider, MDH can create an updated list of specific services available and post it on the MDH website using existing budgeted resources. However, to the extent that the bill requires the list to note which providers accept Medicaid and private insurance, MDH expenditures increase. Specifically, MDH advises that to create a searchable database that could track all providers, the services each provider is licensed to provide, whether the provider is enrolled in Medicaid, and the types of commercial insurance accepted by providers, MDH expenditures increase by approximately \$150,000 on a one-time-only basis in fiscal 2021.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** HB 374 (Delegate Barron, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 3, 2020  
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