

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1192 (Delegate Patterson, *et al.*)
 Health and Government Operations

**Maryland Health Care Commission - Studies of Issues Affecting Individuals
 With Sickle Cell Disease**

This bill requires the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC), in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and specified stakeholders, to conduct studies on (1) individuals who provide medical services in emergency departments (EDs) in the State and their knowledge of sickle cell disease (SCD); (2) the coordination of health care for individuals with SCD who are transitioning from pediatric to adult health care in the State; and (3) Medicaid enrollees receiving out-of-state medical care for SCD. By July 1, 2023, MHCC must report its findings and recommendations to specified committees of the General Assembly. MHCC must provide a copy of the report to any person on request. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2022.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: MHCC special fund expenditures increase by approximately \$120,000 in FY 2023 only for contractual services to complete the required studies and report. MDH can consult with MHCC using existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SF Expenditure	120,000	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$120,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: In consultation with MDH and specified stakeholders, MHCC must conduct a study on:

- individuals who provide medical care in EDs and their knowledge of SCD by examining (1) the extent and type of knowledge such individuals have about SCD; (2) the type of educational training such individuals receive regarding SCD, its treatment, and how it may be affected by medical care; and (3) opportunities to educate such individuals on SCD, as specified;
- the coordination of health care for individuals with SCD who are transitioning from pediatric to adult health care by examining (1) resources available to such individuals; (2) the type and frequency of actions taken by health care providers to coordinate health care for such individuals; and (3) opportunities to enhance health care coordination for such individuals; and
- Medicaid enrollees receiving out-of-state medical care for SCD, by examining, to the extent practicable, (1) the number of Medicaid enrollees receiving medical care for SCD outside the State compared to the total number of Medicaid enrollees with SCD; (2) the reasons Medicaid enrollees seek medical care for SCD outside the State; (3) barriers to receiving medical care for SCD outside the State for Medicaid enrollees; and (4) financial consequences of Medicaid enrollees receiving care for SCD outside the State, both for the enrollees and Medicaid.

Current Law: MHCC is an independent commission within MDH with a mission to plan for health system needs, promote informed decision making, increase accountability, and improve access in a rapidly changing health care environment by providing timely and accurate information on availability, cost, and quality of services to policymakers, purchasers, providers, and the public.

Chapter 435 of 2007 established the Statewide Steering Committee for Adults with Sickle Cell Disease to establish institutional and community partnerships and a statewide network of stakeholders who care for individuals with SCD. The steering committee is also charged with educating individuals with SCD, the public, and health care providers about options for care of SCD in Maryland. The steering committee must seek grant funding to (1) develop and establish a case management system for adults with SCD; (2) establish an adult SCD day infusion center; (3) develop, implement, and lead a State comprehensive education and treatment program for adults with SCD; and (4) develop and implement a health care provider awareness and education campaign to increase provider awareness of

health care disparities, community dynamics, cultural practice, behavioral and psychosocial issues, and the use of standardized treatment and emergency room protocols.

Chapter 452 of 2019 altered the membership of the steering committee and expanded the intent of the Sickle Cell Anemia Subtitle within the Health-General Article to include providing resources for detecting SCD and supporting individuals with SCD. Chapter 452 also authorized MDH, in consultation with the steering committee, to provide specified services related to SCD in the State.

State Expenditures: MHCC special fund expenditures increase by approximately \$120,000 in fiscal 2023 only for contractual services to complete the required studies and compile the required report. MHCC advises that contractual services are required to: (1) support an assessment of the current knowledge and competency among ED clinicians and other health care professionals, care protocols, and best practices; (2) identify data sources to inform the understanding of the services available to individuals with SCD, how services are coordinated among providers and reimbursed by Medicaid and other payers, and to perform statistical analyses using available data; and (3) generate the final report with recommendations for improvement or corrective action.

MDH advises that the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration can consult with MHCC to conduct the required studies using existing budgeted resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

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

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