

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2022 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader**

Senate Bill 174

(Chair, Budget and Taxation Committee)(By Request -  
Departmental - Health)

Budget and Taxation

Health and Government Operations

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**Mortality and Quality Review Committee - Duties, Reports, and Data - Sunset  
Extension**

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This departmental bill extends the termination date by 10 years (from December 31, 2022, to December 31, 2032) of specified provisions relating to the Mortality and Quality Review Committee, including that (1) the committee must review specified aggregate incident data and include such data in its annual report; (2) the committee must make findings and recommendations to the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) on system quality assurance needs; (3) the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) must provide the committee with specified data; and (4) the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) must provide the committee's report to specified facilities and programs..

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** MDH can continue to use existing resources to handle the bill's requirements.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** MDH has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** The purpose of the Mortality and Quality Review Committee is to prevent avoidable injuries and deaths and to improve the quality of care provided to

persons with developmental disabilities. The committee, which comprises 18 members, must (1) evaluate causes or factors contributing to deaths in specified facilities or programs; (2) review aggregate incident data regarding facilities or programs licensed or operated by DDA or operating by waiver; (3) identify patterns and systemic problems and ensure consistency in the review process; and (4) make recommendations to the Secretary of Health and the Secretary of Disabilities to prevent avoidable injuries and deaths and improve the quality of care.

OHCQ must provide aggregate incident data to the committee every three months. Through the data provided, OHCQ identifies trends that may threaten the health, safety, or well-being of an individual. The committee must review the data and make findings and recommendations to MDH on system quality assurance needs. The committee may consult with experts as needed and may issue preliminary findings or recommendations to the Secretary of Health, the Secretary of Disabilities, the Director of DDA, the Director of the Behavioral Health Administration, or the Director of OHCQ. The committee's annual report must include specified aggregate information, and the report must be provided by DDA to facilities or programs licensed or operated by DDA or operating by waiver.

These specific provisions regarding OHCQ and committee review and reporting were codified under Chapter 268 of 2006, with an initial termination date of September 30, 2009. Chapters 48 and 49 of 2009 extended the termination date to December 31, 2012. Chapters 340 and 341 of 2012 extended the termination date to December 31, 2022.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 20, 2022  
js/jc Third Reader - February 22, 2022

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES  
Maryland Department of Health  
Session 2021

**BILL TITLE:** Mortality and Quality Review Committee – Duties,  
Reports, and Data – Sunset Extension

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 174

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**PREPARED BY:**  
**(Program\Unit):** Developmental Disabilities Administration

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PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

X WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON  
MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND

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SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

None.