

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 1655

PRINTER'S NO. 4226

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

August 26, 2013

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Baker

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 1655 creates the Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Advisory Council to advise the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) on ways to increase the use of PCMH in providing health care services to those on Medical Assistance (MA). The PCMH needs to be led by a physician, a physician assistant practicing under the supervision and direction of a physician, or a nurse practitioner operating under a collaborative agreement.

The Secretary of DPW shall appoint the council, in consultation with House and Senate leaders. The council shall be chaired by the Secretary and consist of members representing:

- Family physicians
- Obstetricians and gynecologists
- Nurse practitioners
- Internists
- Pediatricians
- Pharmacists
- Hospital and health systems
- Patient-centered medical homes
- Mental health care providers
- Community health centers
- Managed care organizations licensed to do business in the Commonwealth
- Physician assistants

The Council is to make recommendations which will increase access to quality care while decreasing costs utilizing the PCMH model. This includes:

- Access to appropriate specialty care, including mental health services and alternative therapies;
 - Preventative screenings;
 - Access to medication and medication therapy management;
 - Avoid duplication of services;
 - Increase patient involvement in health care decisions and treatment options;
- and,

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- Establish baseline goals for the medical home and a manner and method to track improved outcomes.

The council will also assist medical homes in being qualified for increased MA reimbursement for services and make recommendations with respect to other increase reimbursement options for services provided through a PCMH.

An initial report from the Council to the Governor, House and Senate is due December 31, 2015, with additional reports due biennially.

This act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 1655 would require the reimbursement of council members for reasonable expenses. This reimbursement could be absorbed by DPW's current General Government Operations appropriation.