

Senate Bill 234

MHQCC Workgroup

Overview of Workgroup Requirements and Anticipated Timeline

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Summary of Presentation

- Overview of Senate Bill 234
- Workgroup Duties
- Workgroup Membership
- Workgroup Staffing
- Anticipated Timeline

Overview of SB 234

The Maryland Health Improvement and Disparities Reduction Act of 2012

- Creation of HEZs
- Numerous reporting provisions
- Requires the Council to convene a workgroup to examine three issues relating to cultural competency and health equity.

Workgroup Duties – Issue 1

- *1) examine appropriate standards for cultural and linguistic competency for medical and behavioral health treatment*
- *2) examine the feasibility and desirability of incorporating these standards into*
 - *A) reporting by health care providers and*
 - *B) tiering of reimbursement rates by payers.*
- *The workgroup must*

Workgroup Duties – Issue 2

- *The workgroup must assess the feasibility of and develop recommendations for*
 - *Criteria and standards establishing multicultural health care equity and assessment programs*
 - *For the Maryland Patient Centered Medical Home program*
 - *For other health care settings.*

Workgroup Duties – Issue 3

- *The workgroup must recommend criteria for health care providers in the State to*
 - *Receive continuing education in multicultural health care,*
 - *including cultural competency and health literacy training.*

Workgroup - Stakeholders

- The workgroup may include a variety of representatives, including:
 - DHMH;
 - Academic centers;
 - Health occupations boards;
 - A wide range of health care professionals and providers; and
 - More.

Workgroup - Staff

- DHMH and MHCC must provide staff for the workgroup. MHHD will serve as lead.
- The academic centers of health literacy and the academic centers for health disparities research must assist MHCC and DHMH in staffing and leading the workgroup.

Anticipated Timeline

- DHMH has requested feedback from the Health Disparities Collaborative by August 1 on:
 - different levels of cultural and linguistic competence that could factor into a reimbursement system; and
 - how to evaluate the cultural and linguistic appropriateness of information provided to enrollees by health plans.

Anticipated Timeline

- After feedback from the collaborative, DHMH staff will meet with the academic centers to develop a more detailed timeline and work plan.
- DHMH staff will submit the workplan for discussion and approval to the Council at either the September or December meeting.

Launching the Workgroup

- *A letter will be sent to the health literacy & academic disparities research centers to obtain their assistance with staff support*
- *An invitation to join the Workgroup will be sent to categories of representatives listed in legislation*
- *A work-plan with timelines will be developed to produce interim products and a final report by November 2013*

Questions?

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