

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2015 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

Senate Bill 320  
 Finance

(Senator Nathan-Pulliam)

Health and Government Operations

**University of Maryland School of Medicine - Workgroup to Study Issues Related to Uterine Fibroids**

This bill requires the University Maryland School of Medicine (UMSM) to convene a workgroup that includes representatives from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, experts in uterine fibroids, and interested stakeholders to a study issues related to the incidence of uterine fibroids in Maryland. UMSM must report the findings of the workgroup to specified committees of the General Assembly by June 30, 2016.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2015.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Higher education expenditures for UMSM increase by at least \$35,000 in FY 2016 only to conduct the required study. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Higher Ed Exp.	35,000	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$35,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Bill Summary:** The workgroup must examine (1) the incidence of uterine fibroids among women in the State, by race, ethnicity, age, and county of residence; (2) the types of treatments and procedures used to treat uterine fibroids; (3) data on the number of women in the State who undergo a hysterectomy (surgical removal of the uterus), myomectomy (surgery to remove a fibroid without removing the uterus), or other type of treatment for uterine fibroids each year; (4) alternative, innovative, and less invasive treatments and procedures that are available to treat uterine fibroids; (5) whether there is a need for more research to study the cause and treatment of uterine fibroids; and (6) whether licensed physicians in the State are willing and able to perform less invasive procedures to treat uterine fibroids.

**Background:** Uterine fibroids are muscular tumors that grow in the wall of the uterus. Fibroids can be as small as an apple seed or as large as a grapefruit. The cause of fibroids is unknown. Risk factors include being African American or being overweight. Treatment includes drugs that can slow or stop the growth of fibroids and surgery. Fibroids are the most common benign tumors in women; as many as one in five women may have fibroids during their childbearing years, and 50% of women have fibroids by age 50.

**State Expenditures:** Higher education expenditures for UMSM increase by at least \$35,000 in fiscal 2016 only, which accounts for the report's June 30, 2016 due date. This estimate reflects the cost of contractual expenditures to obtain data, convene a panel of experts, set up meetings, conduct research, and prepare the report. UMSM has agreed to convene the workgroup.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 602 (Delegate Glenn, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

**Information Source(s):** National Institute of Health, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 19, 2015  
md/ljm Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 27, 2015

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