

Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB274

House of Origin X Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Cuccinelli

3. Committee: Courts of Justice

4. Title: **Involuntary commitment; transfer to outpatient treatment.**

5. Summary: Involuntary commitment; transfer to outpatient treatment. Provides that the director of any facility in which a person subject to an involuntary commitment order is detained may petition the judge or special justice to order the person transferred to involuntary outpatient treatment if the director concludes that the person satisfies the criteria for outpatient treatment and that the person's mental illness would be more effectively treated in such an environment. Any petition for such a transfer must be accompanied by an affidavit from a psychiatrist or psychologist stating that he had personally examined the committed person within the five days preceding the filing of the petition and that he recommends the person be transferred to outpatient treatment. Upon receipt of a petition to transfer, the court judge or special justice shall proceed to hold a commitment hearing within 10 days.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Tentative

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: Tentative

8. Fiscal Implications: There are currently approximately 10,000 civil commitments each year. This bill would allow a facility director to petition the court to “step-down” an involuntary inpatient commitment into outpatient treatment. There is no rational model to predict the number of individuals that will be discharged under this legislation. However, for every individual discharged into outpatient treatment, it can be assumed there will be both case management costs, as well as outpatient treatment costs. Each individual receives a minimum of 7.5 hours of outpatient treatment. For every 1,000 individuals that are discharged in this manner, the cost to the mental health system is a minimum of \$485,000.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Community Services Boards, Courts

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

Date: 1/24/2008 dpb

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cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources