

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2011 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 674  
Ways and Means

(Delegate Cullison, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Education - Human Trafficking - Awareness, Training, and Distribution of  
Materials**

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This bill requires the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), in collaboration with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), to provide awareness and training on human trafficking for directors of student services in local school systems, including strategies for the prevention of trafficking of children. DHMH, in consultation with experts in the field, must provide MSDE with resource information and materials for distribution that describe local, State, and national resources to which students, parents, counselors, and school personnel can refer for information on human trafficking.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2011.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** MSDE and DHMH can provide the required information about human trafficking using existing resources.

**Local Effect:** Local school supervisors of health, counseling, and psychology can collect and disseminate information on human trafficking without affecting local finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Chapters 340 and 341 of 2007 renamed the crime of pandering to be human trafficking.

**Background:** The U.S. Department of State has estimated that approximately 600,000 to 800,000 victims are trafficked annually across international borders worldwide and approximately one-half of these victims are minors. According to the 2005 report, 80% of internationally trafficked victims are female and 70% are trafficked into the sex industry. The United Nations' International Labor Organization estimates that at least 12.3 million adults and children are in forced labor, bonded labor, and commercial sexual servitude. Of this group, 1.4 million are in commercial sexual servitude and 56% of all forced labor victims are women and girls.

According to the Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy, five people have been convicted of human trafficking in the State's circuit courts from fiscal 2001 through 2010.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, National Conference of State Legislatures, New York State Assembly, U.S. Department of State, United Nations, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 28, 2011  
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