

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 310

(Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment
Committee)(By Request - Departmental - Planning)

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Environment and Transportation

**Department of Planning - State Repository and Clearinghouse for Federal and
State Financial and Technical Assistance**

This departmental bill repeals (1) a requirement that the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) serve as a repository and clearinghouse for information about federal and State grants, loans, and other financial and technical assistance and (2) a related requirement that MDP adopt specified regulations. The bill also requires MDP to annually publish information about State financial and technical assistance programs on the Maryland InfoPortal rather than in a catalog or catalogs of State assistance programs.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect local government finances.

Small Business Effect: MDP has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law: State law requires MDP to serve as a repository and clearinghouse for information concerning federal and State grants, loans, and other financial and technical assistance, and to annually publish information about State financial and technical assistance in a catalog or catalogs of State assistance programs. MDP is also required to adopt regulations that require units of State government to (1) submit financial and

technical assistance information to MDP and (2) publish information concerning grant application requirements in the *Maryland Register* in a timely manner.

Background: MDP has a dedicated webpage, [Maryland InfoPortal](#), that serves as a digital catalog of State assistance programs and contains links to 700-plus State programs providing financial, nonfinancial, and technical assistance and direct development to local government, civic and private organizations, and individuals.

MDP advises that the [Governor's Grants Office](#) (GGO) and the federal [grants.gov](#) website, provide information about federal financial assistance. GGO's website indicates that the office provides resources, training, research, and guidance to State agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and academia on all aspects of federal grants and federal funds.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Commerce; Maryland Association of Counties; Maryland Municipal League; Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy; Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland Higher Education Commission; Maryland Department of Disabilities; Maryland Department of the Environment; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Housing and Community Development; Department of Human Services; Maryland Department of Labor; Maryland Department of Planning; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 23, 2024
km/sdk Third Reader - February 13, 2024

Analysis by: Joanne E. Tetlow

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510

ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: **Department of Planning - State Repository and Clearinghouse for Federal and State Financial and Technical Assistance**

BILL NUMBER: SB0310

PREPARED BY: Maryland Department of Planning

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

 X WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS

OR

 WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

This proposal has no economic impact on small businesses. It is updating article language to reflect the modern MDP practices that were initially set forth in the State Finance and Procurement Article § 5-508.