

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 953 (Howard County Delegation)  
Ways and Means

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**Howard County - Property Tax Credit - Commercial or Industrial Property**  
**Ho. Co. 10-96**

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This bill allows Howard County to grant a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on new construction or an improvement to real property of a commercial or industrial business. To qualify, the business must be or plan to be in business in Howard County, employ at least 12 new full-time employees by the second year in which the credit is allowed, and make a substantial investment in Howard County. The substantial investment in the county may be either an acquisition of a building, land, or equipment that totals at least \$2 million, or the creation of 10 positions with salaries greater than the current average annual wage in Howard County.

The bill is effective July 1, 1996.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Indeterminate decrease in Howard County property tax revenues. This is enabling legislation, and any revenue decrease would depend upon whether Howard County opts to offer the tax credit, the amount of the tax credit, and the number and value of properties qualifying. The Howard County Economic Development Authority Incentives Task Force has recommended that the annual value of the credits not exceed an aggregate of \$225,000.

To the extent that this bill leads to increased economic activity in Howard County, other county revenues could increase.

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**Information Source(s):** Howard County

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 27, 1996

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