

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 448 (Chairman, Appropriations Committee)  
(Departmental - Housing and Community Development)  
Appropriations

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**Department of Housing and Community Development - Maryland Historical Trust -  
Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program**

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This departmental bill combines the Historic Preservation Grant Program and the Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Grant Program within the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT). The bill removes the \$20,000 cap on grant amounts to museums through the Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Grant Program, and provides that grants through this program can be used for operating support.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill is procedural in nature and would not change the overall funding level for the grant programs.

**Local Effect:** Minimal decrease in expenditures; overall revenues would not be affected.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Housing and Community Development has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Local Effect:** This bill will not change the overall level of grant funding available to local jurisdictions, but will make it easier for local governments (and nonprofit organizations) to apply for grant assistance. This simplification in procedures could result in a minimal decrease in expenditures on grant application activities. Additionally, certain local governments would be able to use grant funds for operating expenditures at museums. To the extent that funds are used for operating expenses, the overall amount of funds available

for capital and study-related projects will decrease.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 6, 1996  
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