

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 900 (Montgomery County and Prince George's County Delegations)  
Commerce and Government Matters Referred to Select Committees 6 and 7

---

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission -**  
**Minority Business Enterprise Programs**  
**MC/PG 17-97**

---

This amended bill continues the authority of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) to operate its Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) program through July 1, 1999. Current law sunsets the program on July 1, 1997. By September 15, 1998 the WSSC must issue a report concerning the implementation and administration of the MBE program to the Montgomery County and Prince George's County Senate and House Delegations.

The bill is effective July 1, 1997.

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Expenditures by WSSC to administer its MBE program would continue at an estimated annual cost of \$196,700. Revenues would not be affected.

**Small Business Effect:** Small businesses that participate in the MBE program would continue to benefit from the program as discussed below.

---

**Fiscal Analysis**

**Small Business Effect:** Since most minority businesses are small businesses, it is likely that most businesses affected by this program are also small businesses. Those small businesses affected by this program would continue to benefit. It is noted that minority small businesses compete directly with other small businesses.

While data on the number of firms involved in the program is not readily available, an average of over \$10 million per year in construction contracts were awarded to MBEs

between fiscal 1993 and 1996 out of average total construction awards of over \$51 million per year. An average of over \$32 million per year in architecture and engineering, procurement, and professional services contracts combined were awarded to MBEs between fiscal 1993 and 1996 out of average total awards of over \$84 million per year.

---

**Information Source(s):** Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 10, 1997

lc

Revised - House Third Reader - April 7, 1997

---

Analysis by: Sarah E. Dickerson

Direct Inquiries to:

Reviewed by: John Rixey

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710