

Department of Fiscal Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 192 (Howard County Delegation)  
Ways and Means

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**Howard County - Property Tax Credit - Commercial or Industrial Businesses**  
**Ho. Co. 12-97**

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This bill alters Howard County’s property tax credit program for commercial or industrial business development by providing that any tax credit awarded for property leased or rented by a commercial or industrial business shall pass through to the business conducting the activity that qualifies for the credit. The bill specifies that the duration of any credit granted may not exceed the term of the lease and may not exceed ten years.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** None. This bill would not directly affect Howard County finances as discussed below.

**Small Business Effect:** None. This bill would not directly affect small businesses as discussed below.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Local Revenues:** No businesses are receiving the credit that is currently authorized by law, and Howard County is not required to grant the credit that the bill affects. If the county did grant the credit authorized by this bill, it would not affect any existing businesses. However, Howard County is currently in development discussions with three businesses that would qualify for the credit. Any credits granted would decrease Howard County revenues, with any decrease depending on the value of the property involved and the duration of any credits.

**Small Business Effect:** If Howard County chooses to grant this credit, a qualifying small business would have to pay less county property taxes. The impact would depend on the

number of businesses that would qualify, the amount of property involved, and the duration of any credits.

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**Information Sources:** Department of Assessments and Taxation, Howard County,  
Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 13, 1997

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