

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Joint Resolution 13 (Senators Trotter and Young)
Judicial Proceedings

Diversity Training for Court and Law Enforcement Personnel

This joint resolution requests that the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services jointly develop and implement diversity training programs for judges, clerks, and other employees of State courts, for lawyers admitted to the State Bar, and for law enforcement personnel enrolled in approved police training schools.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Because a joint resolution is an expression of legislative intent only, compliance is not required and State finances are not directly affected. Should the terms of this joint resolution be complied with, general fund expenditures could increase as described below.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal effect on small businesses as described below.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The Administrative Office of the Courts reports that diversity training for the Judiciary would include judicial and non-judicial personnel. The judicial training would include the judges of the Court of Appeals, the Court of Special Appeals, the circuit courts, and the District Court - a total of 256 judges. Non-judicial personnel includes 1,100 employees of the court clerks from the 24 circuit courts, and 300 employees from the courts of appeal, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), and other court-related agencies. It is estimated that this training could be provided to the above cited personnel for \$70,000, which includes the consultant fees for performing the actual training. It is assumed that the

administrative staff of the District Court could provide this training with existing budgeted resources.

Law enforcement personnel enrolled in police training schools approved by the Police Training Commission already receive diversity training.

Small Business Effect: Since the AOC reports that this joint resolution could be acceded to via the use of outside consultants, this request could represent a business opportunity for a small business. Assuming that only one such contract could be awarded, and assuming that a small business is the successful bidder, this joint resolution could result in additional business for a consulting firm engaged in diversity training.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Office of the Deputy Secretary); Department of Fiscal Services

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