

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 847 (Delegate Rosenberg. *et al.*)

Commerce and Government Matters

Task Force on High-Speed Network Development

This bill establishes a 28-member task force on high-speed network development to study network developments in other parts of the country; to assess the need for high-speed network development in Maryland; to develop specific goals and make recommendations for Maryland; to conduct hearings to solicit comments and recommendations from governments, the public, and interested parties; to work with other State units involved with the development of the State's computing resources; and to guide in the implementation of the task force's recommendations. The bill directs the task force to draft recommendations, model legislation, and model regulations including drafting State budget recommendations for fiscal 2000, 2001, and subsequent years.

The task force must prepare an initial report by January 1, 1999, and a final report by January 1, 2000.

This bill takes effect on June 1, 1998, and sunsets on May 30, 2000.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential indeterminate increase in general fund expenditures.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: To the extent that the task force hires consultants and experts to assist it in completing its work, general fund expenditures would increase. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) is required to staff the task force. It is assumed that any additional workload to DBM could be handled with existing budgeted resources. Any expense reimbursements to task force members is assumed to be minimal.

Information Source: Governor's Office; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 16, 1998

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