

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 748 (Delegate Crvor)

Commerce and Government Matters

State Buildings - Pictures and Web Sites - Missing Children and Elderly

This bill requires the Department of General Services (DGS), the Department of Transportation (MDOT), and the University of Maryland System to reserve a reasonable amount of space in State buildings under their control for the purpose of displaying pictures of missing elderly adults who have a mental disability, such as dementia or Alzheimer's disease. Under current law, such space is reserved for pictures of abducted children only.

The bill also requires the General Services Administration and MDOT to jointly establish a web site with pictures and information on missing children and mentally disabled adults.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Indeterminate increase in expenditures related to the web site development and maintenance. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The reservation of space in State office buildings for pictures of missing elderly adults who have a mental disability could be handled with existing resources.

Assuming "General Services Administration" is intended to mean the Maryland Department of General Services (DGS), the bill requires DGS and MDOT to jointly establish a web site that contains pictures and other information on missing children and mentally disabled adults. DGS advises costs would include a one-time purchase of web site software at \$500, about

\$1,800 annually for a web site lease, and about \$8,400 annually for a part-time grade 12 position to maintain the site. MDOT advises costs would include about \$10,000 for development and about \$40,000 per year for a grade 16 webmaster to maintain the site. Legislative Services advises that any development costs need not be duplicated, but rather could be split between the two departments. Further, the extent to which additional personnel would be needed depends on volume and how often the site would need to be updated.

For informational purposes only, it is noted that at least 18 other states as well as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children have some type of missing children/persons web sites. The Delaware Missing Children Information Clearinghouse's web page is maintained by volunteers as a public service.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, Department of Transportation, University System of Maryland, Department of Legislative Services (Office of Information Systems)

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