Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 539 (Delegate Beck)

Commerce and Government Matters

Election Laws - Campaign Contributions by Persons Awarded Grants from the State "Sunny Day Fund"

This bill prohibits the recipient of a State "Sunny Day Fund" award from making a political contribution for the benefit of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Comptroller, Attorney General, or a member of the General Assembly for a five-year period after the grant has been awarded.

The bill is effective January 1, 1999.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill's requirements would have no effect on State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: As a point of information, the fund is used to attract, retain, and expand business facilities in the State and is administered by the Department of Business and Economic Development. Expenditures from the fund require the approval of the Legislative Policy Committee. Since the creation of the fund in 1988, 74 projects have been approved. These approved projects represent a total commitment of \$94.9 million. The proposed fiscal 1999 allowance for the "Sunny Day Fund" is \$24.5 million, the same amount as the fiscal 1998 appropriation for the fund.

Information Source(s): State Board of Elections, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 20, 1998

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