

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Joint Resolution 11 (Delegate Kopp, *et al.*)

Economic Matters

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**Task Force on Microenterprise Development in Maryland**

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This joint resolution requests the Governor to establish a 27-member Task Force on Microenterprise Development in Maryland to study: (1) the scope of microentrepreneurial activity in Maryland; (2) the benefits of microentrepreneurial activity to the economy and quality of life; (3) regulatory and other impediments that may inhibit microentrepreneurial activity; (4) the level of support and encouragement of microenterprise development through public and private means; (5) the potential benefits that microenterprise development may have for welfare-to-work and other State and federal initiatives; and (6) other states' efforts to encourage microenterprise development. The Department of Business and Economic Development is required to staff the task force using existing resources. The task force's report is due to the General Assembly and the Governor by December 1, 1999.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Task force members would be reimbursed for expenses under the standard State travel regulations. Any such expenditures would depend upon the time, location, and frequency of the task force's meetings. Expenses are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing agency resources. Staffing the task force must be handled with the department's existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful.

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## **Fiscal Analysis**

**Small Business Effect:** The task force will focus attention on impediments to small businesses and what types of government and private assistance are available for small businesses in this and other states, among other things related to microenterprise in Maryland. To the extent that the task force makes recommendations encouraging the development of microenterprise in the State, small businesses could benefit in the future. However, any such benefit would depend on the actions of the task force and the consideration given to its recommendations by the General Assembly and the Governor.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Business and Economic Development,  
Department of Legislative Services

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Analysis by: Jody J. Minnich

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 946-5510

(301) 970-5510