

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 174 (Senator Munson, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Prisoners - Job Training - State Use Industries Management Council and Customer Council

This bill changes the "State Use Industries Advisory Committee" to the "State Use Industries Management Council" and creates a customer council for State Use Industries (SUI).

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The requirements of this bill could be accommodated with the existing budgeted resources of SUI and any other State unit cooperating with the management council. It is assumed that any annual appropriations for staffing and operations of the management council, as required under this bill, would be subject to the normal budget processes and the availability of SUI resources.

Local Effect: None. It is assumed that cooperation with the management council can be accommodated with the existing budgeted resources of local governments.

Small Business Effect: Minimal. Theoretically, improved business practices emanating from the expanded duties of the management council could lead to greater efficiencies, sales, and net "profits" for SUI. However, since its marketing and sales are confined to State and local governments and some nonprofit entities, any impact of improved operations by SUI on Maryland's small businesses are assumed to be limited.

Fiscal Analysis

Bill Summary: This bill changes the "State Use Industries Advisory Committee" to the "State Use Industries Management Council" and reduces the membership of the council from 16 to 15 members, as specified. The bill expands the duties of the council to include additional reviews, recommendations, and monitoring duties of the council concerning working conditions, experience, and training for inmates, as well as the business practices and monetary forecasting of State Use Industries (SUI). The bill grants a certain limited civil immunity to the State and the management council.

The bill requires the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) to employ staff for the management council to be paid out of SUI funds, in accordance with the State budget. Beginning in fiscal 2000 the management council is required to submit a budget to DPSCS and DPSCS must request an annual State budget appropriation for the management council sufficient for its operations.

The bill also creates an 11-member customer council to advise the SUI General Manager. The bill specifies the duties of the customer council and requires the council to meet quarterly.

The bill also requires all State and local governmental units to cooperate with the management council in the discharge of its powers and duties.

Information Source(s): Office of the Governor, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (State Use Industries), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 7, 1999

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