

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Joint Resolution 18 (Delegate Hixson)

Commerce and Government Matters

Task Force to Study Use of Public Rights-of-Way by Telecommunications Providers

This bill establishes a 19-member Task Force to Study Use of Public Rights-of-Way by Telecommunications Providers staffed by the Department of Legislative Services to: (1) review the status of current law; (2) study the impact that the use of the public rights-of-way by a growing number of telecommunications providers has on the condition of local roads and rights-of-way, as well as on expenditures by the local government; (3) consider the equity and adequacy of the current standard requiring telecommunications providers to pay for any damages done by their use of the public rights-of-way; (4) consider reimbursement strategies for the use of the public rights-of-way; and (5) make any recommendations for legislation that it considers appropriate for introduction in the 2000 legislative session. The task force is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 1999.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Expense reimbursements and staffing for the task force could be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source: Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 12, 1999

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