

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 730 (Senator Van Hollen. *et al.*)

Budget and Taxation

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**Maryland After-School Opportunity Act - Appropriation - Requirements**

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This bill requires the Governor to include \$20 million in the fiscal 2002 State budget for the Maryland After-School Opportunity Fund. Of this amount, \$10 million is subject to a local matching requirement with the maximum grant amount for any one recipient capped at \$2.5 million.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures would increase by \$20 million in FY 2002. Revenues would not be affected.

**Local Effect:** Local governments may receive up to \$20 million in funding for after-school programs in FY 2002. A portion of the grants, however, could go to private providers, thereby reducing the amount available to local schools and to other government agencies. In addition, local governments would have to provide a matching grant to qualify for \$10 million of the funding.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Chapter 586 of 1999 (HB 6) established the Maryland After-School Opportunity Fund Program to provide funding to organizations with after-school programs (for children). The Governor must include \$10 million in the fiscal 2001 State budget for this program; however, there are no statutory provisions requiring future funding amounts for this program. The total grants awarded to applicants operating within a particular county or Baltimore City may not exceed 15% of the total grants awarded in that fiscal year. In

addition, recipients of funding under the program are not subject to a matching requirement. The Department of Human Resources (DHR) administers the fund as directed by an executive committee. The executive committee is comprised of the Governor; the State Superintendent of Schools; and the Secretaries of Human Resources, Health and Mental Hygiene, Juvenile Justice, and the Office for Children, Youth, and Families. The executive committee must consult with an advisory committee consisting of State officials, parents, students, a teacher, and community representatives.

The executive committee is required to review and update the comprehensive plan of after-school opportunity programs each year. This plan must address: (1) the integration of funding sources; (2) maximization of federal funding opportunities; (3) the promotion of the use of school buildings and local public transportation resources for after-school opportunity programs; (4) the use of local child care resource and referral centers for technical assistance purposes; (5) the promotion of continued expansion of high quality after-school opportunity programs in the State; and (6) the consideration of implementing the full range of options for improving the delivery of after-school opportunity programs.

The executive committee must develop the first comprehensive plan of after-school opportunity programs by December 15, 1999, and must report to the General Assembly by December 31 of each year on the implementation of the program.

**Background:** The Governor's proposed fiscal 2001 budget includes \$10 million for the program. The After-School Opportunity Fund Advisory Board has submitted its first comprehensive plan on how the after-school program will operate beginning in fiscal 2001. The plan will distribute \$9.25 million in funds through the Local Management Boards to local jurisdictions and use \$750,000 for technical assistance, training, and evaluation. Of the \$9.25 million, approximately \$4.8 million will be divided up as base awards to each jurisdiction. Awards will range from \$50,000 to \$1.5 million. The remaining amount will be set aside for competitive distribution to encourage jurisdictions to develop innovative after-school programs.

**State Fiscal Effect:** This bill would provide \$20 million in funding for the Maryland After-School Opportunity Fund in fiscal 2002. Of this amount, \$10 million is subject to a local matching requirement with the maximum grant amount for any one recipient capped at \$2.5 million.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 739 (Delegate Shriver, *et al.*) - Appropriations.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 23, 2000  
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