

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 341 (Cecil County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

Cecil County - Economic Development Commission

This bill updates current law pertaining to the Cecil County Economic Development Commission (CCEDC). The Cecil County Board of County Commissioners must appoint between 23 and 33 commission members, each of whom will serve for three years. The commission must include at least one member from each of the eight municipal corporations in the county and two representatives from the community at large. The bill requires that the commission meet regularly and submit an annual report within 90 days of the end of each fiscal year. Other changes to current law are stylistic, and do not substantively alter the commission's responsibilities.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: No additional expenses are anticipated despite the increase in the number of board members. Board members are not paid for their participation.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The CCEDC consists of nine to 15 members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. Each commission member serves a two-year term. The commission is required to meet monthly and is given no time frame for submitting its annual report.

Background: With the bill's alterations, the purpose of the Economic Development Commission of Cecil County is "[to advance] the general economic welfare of the people through the establishment of programs and activities that result in new economic activity, job

growth, and expansion of the local tax base . . . and to cooperate with and offer assistance to existing businesses in order to facilitate economic expansion, and to promote and encourage the establishment and location of new industries and businesses in Cecil County.”

Currently, some of the larger employers in Cecil County are W. L. Gore and Associates with 1,288 employees and Union Hospital with 650. Cecil County population for 1999 is estimated at 83,800; 64% of the working-age residents are employed full-time and 15% are employed part-time. Approximately half of the county’s full-time working residents commute outside the county to work. The median household income in Cecil County for 1999 is \$45,700.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 82 (Senators Baker and Hooper) - Economic and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Cecil County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 9, 2000

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Analysis by: Mark Collins

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510