

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 911 (Delegate Nathan-Pulliam. *et al.*)

Judiciary

Task Force on the Licensing and Monitoring of Community-Based Homes for Children

This bill establishes a 13-member Task Force on the Licensing and Monitoring of Community-Based Homes for Children. The task force must evaluate the licensing and monitoring of residential child care programs licensed by the departments of Human Resources, Juvenile Justice, and Health and Mental Hygiene. The task force is to make recommendations for improving facility oversight and for eliciting and responding to citizen concerns about the facilities to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2000. The Governor's Office for Children, Youth, and Families (OCYF), with assistance from the Department of Legislative Services (DLS), is to provide staff support for the task force.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2000 and sunsets May 31, 2001.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursements for task force members and staffing costs for the OCYF, with assistance from DLS, are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: None.

State Expenditures: The OCYF advises that general fund expenditures could increase by an estimated \$39,200 in fiscal 2001, which reflects the bill's June 1, 2000, effective date. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring a full-time contractual position (administrator II) to staff the task force, due to the inability to absorb the additional tasks required by the bill. It includes salaries and fringe benefits (\$38,369), travel and per diem (\$350), and ongoing operating expenses (\$493).

DLS advises, however, that the bill specifies that the OCYF is to staff the task force with assistance from DLS, and thus believes that the bill's staffing requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 394 (Senator Kelley, *et al.*) - Finance.

Information Source(s): Governor's Office (Office for Children, Youth, and Families), Department Human Resources, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 25, 2000

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