

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 935 (Delegate Ports. *et al.*)

Ways and Means

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Elementary and Secondary Education - School Technology Task Force

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This bill establishes a 12-member School Technology Task Force to study (1) the use of digital technology in schools; (2) leasing of computer equipment; (3) bulk purchase of computer and other school equipment; and (4) other policies that further the cost effective purchase and use of technology in the State's public schools. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is required to provide staffing. The task force must be appointed and hold its first meeting by July 1, 2000, and submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the State Superintendent by December 31, 2000. The task force terminates after the submission of the report.

This bill takes effect June 1, 2000.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** MSDE could provide staffing for the task force within existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** A State Committee on Technology in Education (COTE) is currently responsible for technology issues for public schools. The committee is chaired by the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education and includes representation from various experts in technology from businesses, higher education institutions, local school systems, and the Maryland State Teachers Association. A member of the House of Delegates and a representative from the Governor's Office also serve on the committee. MSDE provides staff support for the committee.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Sources:** Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 1, 2000  
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