

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1158 (Delegates Shriver and Conrov)

Economic Matters

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**Task Force to Study Employment Barriers Facing Individuals with Disabilities**

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The bill establishes a 20-member task force to study the employment barriers individuals with disabilities face.

This bill is effective July 1, 2000, and sunsets June 30, 2002.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Any staffing costs associated with the task force could be handled within the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation's (DLLR) existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** The task force shall study employment research related to disabled individuals, assess various factors affecting employment for disabled people, evaluate employers' and potential employees' needs, determine ways to stimulate employment opportunities for disabled workers, hold public meetings, and develop recommendations for changes in the relevant statutes and regulations.

DLLR has staffing responsibility for the task force. The task force must submit to the Governor and the General Assembly preliminary reports by December 1, 2000 and 2001, and a final report by June 30, 2002.

**Background:** Sixty percent of Maryland's disabled people are unemployed. The statewide unemployment rate for 1999 was 3.6%.

**State Fiscal Effect:** Given the work this task force is assigned, the Department of Legislative Services believes that DLLR could handle this bill's requirements without additional staff. However, DLLR advises that an additional two staff members will be required at a cost of \$80,900 in fiscal 2001 and \$104,900 in fiscal 2002.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Maryland Works, Inc.; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 7, 2000  
ncs/jr

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