

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 249 (Delegate J. Kelly, *et al.*)

Appropriations

World War II Memorial Fund

This bill requires the Governor to appropriate \$250,000 in the fiscal 2001 State budget to the Department of Veterans Affairs. The department must donate the funds to the World War II Memorial Fund. The memorial will be located in Washington, DC.

The bill is effective July 1, 2000.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: State general fund expenditures would increase by \$250,000 in FY 2001. The out-years are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: No State funds have been appropriated for the World War II Memorial Fund.

Background: There is no current national memorial dedicated to the United States citizens, including 250,000 residents of Maryland, who served in the armed forces and Merchant Marine during World War II. The World War II Memorial Fund was established by Public Law 103-32 in 1993 to raise money nationally for the construction of a World War II memorial located in Washington, DC. The American Battle Monuments Commission, an independent federal agency created in 1923, was charged with designing the memorial and

encouraging private donations for the construction of the memorial. The fund-raising campaign has raised more than \$70 million of the \$100 million needed to design, build, and maintain the memorial. Support has come primarily from private funds but 26 states, including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and West Virginia, have also supported the effort. The design can be seen on the Internet at <http://www.wiimemorial.com/aboutdesign/index.htm>.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 195 (Senator Bromwell, *et al.*) - Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Department of Veteran's Affairs, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 3, 2000

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