

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 841 (Montgomery County Delegation and Prince George's County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

Economic and Environmental Affairs

---

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - Minority Business Enterprise Program – Graduation  
MC/PG 119-01**

---

This bill changes the graduation criteria for the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) minority business enterprise program from a fixed period (five years, with a two-year extension under certain circumstances) to a determination by the WSSC that the firm no longer needs the assistance or benefits of the program.

The bill is effective July 1, 2001.

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The WSSC could handle the bill's provisions with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None, assuming the WSSC accurately measures the need of each business for the assistance or benefits of the program.

---

**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The WSSC may establish a minority business enterprise program that features preferences of up to the lesser of 5% or \$50,000 per contract, a sheltered market program, or other assistance. Firms graduate from the program after five years. However, if a firm has not been awarded at least three contracts or a total of \$50,000

during the five-year period, the firm may apply for and receive a two-year extension of participation in the program. The program will expire on July 1, 2002.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – February 14, 2001  
ef/cr

---

Analysis by: Christine A. Scott

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