

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 1251 (Chairman, Economic Matters Committee)  
(Departmental – Labor, Licensing, and Regulation)

Economic Matters

Finance

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**Labor and Employment - Job Training Services**

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This departmental bill alters the Maryland Job Training Partnership Act to conform to the requirements of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and renames it the Maryland Workforce Investment Act.

The bill is effective July 1, 2001.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The changes are non-substantive and would not directly affect governmental finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Prior to 1998, the Maryland Job Training Partnership Act was the mechanism that the State used to distribute federal workforce development funds. In 1998 the federal government made several changes to the Act and renamed it the Workforce Investment Act. The federal appropriation for Maryland for (State) fiscal 2002 is \$55.2 million.

Maryland has several existing education and job training programs targeted to low-income residents or individuals receiving public assistance, including the Work Opportunity Program, the Welfare-to-Work Family Literacy Program, and the Job Skills Enhancement Pilot Program. The fiscal 2002 budget allowance for these programs totals over \$42 million.

These programs fund a variety of job training and welfare-to-work programs including assisting in finding permanent unsubsidized employment, providing educational services to welfare recipients with the goal of helping families become self-sufficient, and providing current and former welfare recipients with training in order for them to enhance their existing job-related skills or gain additional or alternative job skills.

**Background:** The federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) replaced the federal Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). WIA authorized the formation of state workforce boards to oversee state workforce development programs and coordinate federal funding. The Governor's Workforce Investment Board (formally known as the State Human Resource Investment Council) has established 12 local workforce investment boards to provide and coordinate job training and employment activities for local workforce areas.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – March 5, 2001  
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