

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 567 (Senator Frosh, *et al.*)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Environmental Matters

Maryland Caregivers Support Coordinating Council

This bill establishes the Maryland Caregivers Support Coordinating Council of Maryland within the Department of Human Resources (DHR). The council's purpose is to coordinate statewide planning, development, and implementation of family caregiver support services. The council comprises 17 members from specified backgrounds who are appointed by the Governor. The members serve three-year terms and are not compensated, but do receive reimbursement for travel expenses. The council is required to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 1, 2002 stating a plan of action for family caregiver support services, and to continue to report annually on its activities. DHR is required to provide staff to support the council, including an executive director.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures are expected to increase by approximately \$80,600 in FY 2002. Future year expenditure estimates reflect annualization and inflation. Revenues would not be affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	80,600	98,800	103,800	109,000	114,700
Net Effect	(\$80,600)	(\$98,800)	(\$103,800)	(\$109,000)	(\$114,700)

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill requires the council to: (1) solicit and gather concerns of caregivers by conducting surveys, holding public hearings, and establishing a telephone hotline for public access; (2) develop and distribute a handbook of family caregiver services in the State; (3) review successful programs in other states; (4) develop a model caregiver support program; (5) coordinate activities of caregiver support services among the State and local public agencies; (6) research available funding sources and explore possibilities for additional funds; and (7) identify unmet needs and priorities for additional funds.

Current Law: None applicable.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures would increase by an estimated \$80,620 in fiscal 2002, which accounts for a 90-day start-up delay. The estimate reflects the cost of two new positions (one executive director/human service specialist and one secretary). It includes salaries, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$61,347
Operating Expenses	<u>19,273</u>
Total FY 2002 State Expenditures	\$80,620

Future year expenditures reflect: (1) full salaries with a 6.5% annual increase in fiscal 2003 and a 4.5% increase each year thereafter, with a 3% employee turnover; and (2) 1% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 513 (Delegate Goldwater, *et al.*) – Environmental Matters.

Information Source(s): Department of Human Resources, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – March 5, 2001
ncs/jr Revised – Senate Third Reader – March 21, 2001
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