

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE**Revised**

Senate Bill 808

(Senator McFadden)

Judicial Proceedings

Economic Matters

Advisory Council on Offender Employment Coordination

This bill establishes a 13-member Advisory Council on Offender Employment Coordination to gather information, solicit ideas, and advise and provide guidance on ways to improve offender employment. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services must provide a full-time executive director, staff support, and technical assistance. The council must annually submit a report concerning its activities to the General Assembly by October 31.

The bill is effective June 1, 2001 and sunsets August 31, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures could increase by \$127,000 in FY 2002 for the cost of the operations of the advisory council. Future year expenditures reflect annualization, salary increases, inflation, and the bill's sunset date.

(in dollars)	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	127,000	129,800	132,700	22,600	0
Net Effect	(\$127,000)	(\$129,800)	(\$132,700)	(\$22,600)	\$0

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

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The council members serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations. The council is to gather information, solicit ideas, and advise and provide guidance to the executive director on ways to:

- develop transitional supports and expand employment opportunities for offenders both in institutional and community settings;
- provide more extensive employment counseling for offenders under correctional control;
- transfer successful institutional programs and services that prepare offenders for employment and provide employment opportunities to community settings;
- increase job placement and job retention rates for all offenders under correctional control;
- improve the overall coordination of employment services for offenders;
- develop and implement a business mentoring program; and
- conduct mock job fairs in institutions and in the community.

Current Law: None applicable.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures could increase by an estimated \$126,996 in fiscal 2002, which accounts for a one-month start-up delay from the bill's June 1, 2001 effective date. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one contractual executive director and one contractual administrative officer. It includes salaries, fringe benefits, and ongoing operating expenses.

Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$118,959
Operating Expenses	<u>8,037</u>
Total FY 2002 State Expenditures	\$126,996

Future year expenditures reflect: (1) full salaries with a 2.3% increase in fiscal 2003 and each year thereafter with 3.8% employee turnover; and (2) 1% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses. Fiscal 2005 expenditures reflect only two months of operations due to the bill's August 31, 2004 sunset date.

Any expense reimbursements for council members are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 829 (Delegate Marriott, *et al.*) –Economic Matters.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services,
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – March 6, 2001
ncs/jr Revised – Senate Third Reader – March 24, 2001

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