

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1070

(Delegate Valderrama)

Commerce and Government Matters

Anti-Terrorism Efforts - State Coordinator

This bill provides that the Lieutenant Governor serves as the State coordinator of anti-terrorism efforts. The State coordinator must designate in each county and municipal corporation the sheriff's department or special forces of the police department as the primary law enforcement agency to fight terrorism. The designated primary law enforcement agencies are to have the necessary special law enforcement and emergency preparedness powers to fight terrorism.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's requirements could be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: The bill's requirements could be handled with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Governor has the power to exercise the police power of the State in an emergency situation including an impending or actual public crisis or disaster. During certain emergency situations, the local police may be placed under an authority designated by the Governor. Other than certain emergency situations, in each county or municipal corporation, the sheriff or police department is the primary law enforcement agency.

Additional Comments: The bill does not specifically define what additional powers local enforcement agencies would be provided to fight terrorism.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Garrett County, Dorchester County, Governor's Office, Baltimore County, Anne Arundel County, Department of Legislative Services

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lsc/jr

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