

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2002 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 377 (Senators McFadden and Blount)  
 Finance and Budget and Taxation

**Maryland Mentoring Partnership**

This bill requires the Department of Human Resources (DHR) to partner with the Maryland Mentoring Partnership and other local mentoring programs in the State to expand the network of mentoring programs and opportunities for minors who live with families that are receiving Temporary Cash Assistance benefits or have received the benefits in the last three years. The purpose of the partnership is to significantly increase the number of these minors participating in mentoring programs by: (1) recruiting mentors from public and private sectors; (2) providing referrals of mentors through a statewide searchable database and a toll-free hotline number; (3) providing training and technical assistance; (4) raising public awareness of the need for mentoring through statewide media campaigns, newsletters, and publications; (5) developing strategies for creating and disseminating private and public sector resources; and (6) developing a statewide tracking system. DHR must include up to \$500,000 for this partnership in its annual budget beginning July 1, 2003 (fiscal 2004).

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** No effect in FY 2003. General fund expenditures for grants to the Maryland Mentoring Partnership would increase by up to \$500,000 annually beginning in FY 2004. No effect on revenues.

(in dollars)	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Net Effect	\$0	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## **Analysis**

**Current Law:** The Department of Human Resources (DHR) funds mentoring programs for welfare recipients, but not for the minors living with those families. Most of the DHR programs available for minors who live with families receiving assistance are after school programs. TCA is the cash assistance portion of the Family Investment Program, the State's welfare program.

**Background:** The impetus for the Maryland Mentoring Partnership (MMP), formerly known as the Baltimore Mentoring Partnership that was established in 1997, was Project RAISE (Raising Ambitions and Increasing Self-Esteem). Project RAISE was a public-private collaboration founded by the Abell Institute in 1988 and designed to decrease the high school dropout rate and improve lifetime opportunities for at-risk students. MMP has a network of more than 350 mentoring programs, 32,000 mentored students, and 12,000 mentors.

**State Expenditures:** DHR general fund expenditures for grants to MMP will be up to \$500,000 annually beginning in fiscal 2004.

The Maryland State Department of Education currently provides \$175,000 annually for the Maryland State Mentoring Resource Center, one of the organizations that works with MMP.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** A similar bill, HB 1104, was introduced in the 2001 session and assigned to the House Ways and Means Committee. A hearing was held but no further action was taken. That bill's cross file, SB 806, passed in the Senate and was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee where it had a hearing but no further action was taken.

**Cross File:** HB 484 is listed as a cross file, but it is not identical to SB 377.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Human Resources, Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 15, 2002  
mam/jr

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