

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

2003 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 614

(Chairman, Appropriations Committee)

(By Request – Departmental – Human Resources)

Appropriations

---

**Montgomery County Local Department of Social Services**

---

This departmental bill establishes that in Montgomery County, the local director of social services, acting as the Secretary of Human Resources' agent, will have commensurate line authority and resources to ensure the county complies with State and federal laws.

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill would not directly affect governmental finances.

**Local Effect:** No fiscal impact on Montgomery County.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Human Resources (DHR) has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small businesses (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

---

**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Each county and Baltimore City must have a local department of social services. Each local department has a local board and a local director. Chapter 476 of 1996 transferred the duties of the local department of social services in Montgomery County to the Montgomery County government. The Montgomery County government instead administers State social service and public assistance programs that in other counties and Baltimore City are administered by a local department. In Montgomery County, the local director must act as the agent of the Secretary of Human Resources, to ensure that the county complies with responsibilities under grant agreements.

**Background:** DHR advises that the bill codifies the authority of the local director of social services in Montgomery County.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 26, 2003  
mdf/jr

---

Analysis by: Lisa A. Daigle

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510