

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 99 (Chairman, Economic Matters Committee)
(By Request – Departmental – Business and Economic Development)
Economic Matters Finance

Advisory Committee on Tourism - Repeal

This departmental bill repeals the Advisory Committee on Tourism.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill reflects current practice.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law: The General Assembly created this 40-member advisory committee in 1993 (Chapter 625) to collect data on the fiscal and social effects of tourism in Maryland and advise the Maryland Tourism Development Board on actions and incentives that would help the board carry out its duties. All members are appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of DBED, and represent various tourism industries.

The 19-member board also comprises tourism industry representatives and formulates a five-year strategic plan, an annual marketing plan, and operating budget. The board

evaluates the impact of taxes, fees, licenses, and regulations on the tourism industry and is responsible for protecting and promoting the State's natural and historical resources. It also advertises and develops tourism and travel industries in the State, using the Maryland Tourism Development Board Fund.

Background: DBED advises that the advisory committee assisted the board when it was first formed but has since become a defunct organization as its role duplicated that of the board. The advisory committee has not met in seven years and currently has 15 vacancies. The board voted unanimously in December 2003 to dissolve the advisory committee.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Business and Economic Development,
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 19, 2004
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