

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 970

(Senator Lawlah)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Health and Government Operations

**Commission on the Maryland Memorial to Victims of September 11, 2001, and
the War Against Terrorism and Associated Visitors' Center and Museum**

This bill establishes the Commission on the Maryland Memorial to Victims of September 11, 2001, and the War Against Terrorism and Associated Visitors' Center and Museum. The commission must oversee the development and construction of a memorial located in Southern Prince George's County to the Maryland victims of September 11, 2001, and the subsequent victims of the war against terrorism. The memorial must include a visitors' center and a museum that focuses on Maryland history and specifically addresses Southern Prince George's County history.

The commission must submit a progress report to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2006 and each subsequent January 1. Staffing must be provided by the State and county agencies represented on the commission.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2005 and terminates June 30, 2010.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill does not require the State to fund the construction of the memorial. Any expense reimbursements for commission members and staffing costs for affected State agencies could be handled within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: Any staffing costs for Prince George's County or the Town of Forest Heights are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The commission must:

- determine a location for the memorial;
- conduct a design search and select a design;
- solicit suggestions and support;
- develop fundraising strategies, raise funds, and distribute funds as needed;
- contract to build the facilities;
- oversee the building process; and
- select an organization to oversee the administration of the completed facilities.

Background: The Ad Hoc Committee for Prince George's County Monument to the Victims of the September 11 Attack is a citizens committee formed shortly after the September 11 attack to help dedicate a memorial for the victims from Prince George's County.

Fiscal Effect: It is assumed that any money raised and expended by the commission will be privately raised funds, and that public funds will not be required. The State agencies represented on the commission – the Departments of Housing and Community Development, Business and Economic Development, and Transportation – could provide staff support with existing resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1558 (Delegate Kelley, *et al.*) – Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Governor's Office, Department of Business and Economic Development, Department of Veterans Affairs, Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 17, 2005
n/hlb

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