

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1322 (Chairman, Health and Government Operations Committee)
(By Request – Departmental – General Services)
Health and Government Operations

Department of General Services - Improvements and Grounds - Security Force

This departmental bill provides that the Chief of Police for the Department of General Services (DGS) may transfer a DGS police officer from one site to another to meet a legitimate operational need.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential decrease in general fund expenditures. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: DGS has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law: A member of the DGS security force may not be involuntarily transferred from one site to another.

Background: The Secretary of General Services is granted the authority to establish a security force to protect people and property on or about improvements, grounds, and multiservice centers owned by DGS. The security force may include sworn police officers. Officers of the department must undergo training as defined by the Maryland Police Training Commission.

The Superintendent of the State Police has the power to assign and reassign employees of the Department of State Police (DSP) to the duties, units, and regional facilities as the Secretary considers necessary to serve the needs of DSP and the public. DGS indicates the majority of executive agency police forces have the same powers.

State Fiscal Effect: The transfer of officers from one location to another would grant DGS police the flexibility to execute its duties in a more efficient manner. In addition, the bill could reduce the amount of overtime paid to officers in the event of an unscheduled incident such as a demonstration or civil disturbance.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 18, 2005
mp/hlb

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