

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 286
Ways and Means

(Delegates Cryor and Cardin)

Budget and Taxation

Task Force to Study the Dynamics of Elderly and Retiree Migration Into and Out of Maryland

This bill extends the termination date for the Task Force to Study the Dynamics of Elderly and Retiree Migration Into and Out of Maryland. It requires the task force to submit a report of its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than May 31, 2006. The task force will terminate on May 31, 2006.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2005.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal increase in consultant expenditures for the University System of Maryland (USM) in FY 2006 only to conduct a comprehensive and objective study on elderly and retiree migration. Any expense reimbursements for task force members and staffing costs could be provided with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 525 of 2004 established the 18-member task force and required it to be staffed by USM. The task force was charged with: (1) reviewing the dynamics of elderly and retiree migration into and out of the State; (2) evaluating the impact that tax policies and benefits of Maryland and other states have on such migration; (3) examining

benefits that the elderly and retirees provide to the local community and the State through volunteering or other activities; and (4) examining State and county expenditures on the elderly and retirees.

The task force was also required to oversee and help prepare a comprehensive and objective study to be conducted by the Maryland Institute for Governmental Service, the Maryland Institute for Policy Analysis and Research (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Loyola College (of Maryland), and the Regional Economic Studies Institute (RESI).

The task force must be appointed, organized, and begin its deliberations by July 1, 2004. It must issue its final report to the General Assembly and the Governor by December 31, 2004. The task force terminates on December 31, 2004.

Background: Members of the task force were not appointed until September 2004, and the task force was not able to meet until October 2004. Consequently, the task force did not complete its assigned tasks.

The Maryland Institute for Governmental Service operates under the University of Maryland Center for Applied Policy Studies and provides training, research, and consulting services to governments and communities. RESI, which moved to Towson University in 1996, provides management consulting, economic analysis, and research services. It is self-funded through client contracts, which include many State agencies. The Maryland Institute for Policy Analysis and Research applies scholarly research on significant issues of public policy and links university resources with policy makers in the State and region.

According to the Department of Aging, the number of Marylanders older than 60 will account for 23% of the State's population by the year 2030, compared to 15% (801,036) of the 2000 population. The number of citizens older than 85 is also expected to grow from 66,902 in 2000 to 127,079 in 2030. The U.S. Census Bureau predicts the geographic distribution of the State's 60 and older population to remain fairly stable, with most of the elderly living in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties and Baltimore City.

The U.S. Census Bureau conducted a detailed study between 1995 and 2000 regarding migration of people 65 and older. According to that study, the net migration loss of Maryland residents 65 and older during that time was 4,388; 30,367 people left Maryland and 25,979 moved in. The majority of the loss involved persons 65 to 74. The State experienced a net migration gain for those aged 74 to 85 and those 85 and older.

State Expenditures: USM advised in 2004 that it would incur minimal increases in expenditures in fiscal 2005 due to contractual costs charged by consultants conducting the study – the actual amount would depend on the scope of the study. USM advises that the study required by Chapter 525 has not yet been completed; however, any increase in expenditures for fiscal 2006 would be minimal.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 966 of the 2004 session, which established the task force was passed into law and enacted as Chapter 525 of 2004. An identical bill to HB 966 (SB 183), as amended, was passed by the Senate in the 2003 session. The House Ways and Means Committee heard the bill but took no action.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): University System of Maryland, Department of Legislative Services

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