

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1236
Ways and Means

(Delegate Heller, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Community College Students with Disabilities Task Force

This bill establishes the Community College Students with Disabilities Task Force. The task force must identify strategies to improve educational and employment outcomes for community college students with disabilities and develop recommendations to enable community colleges to acquire the resources needed to serve students with disabilities. A final report is due December 1, 2005. The Maryland Higher Education Commission, State Department of Disabilities, and Maryland Association of Community Colleges must provide staff for the task force.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2005 and terminates June 30, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The assigned State agencies could provide staff for the task force with existing personnel and resources. Any expense reimbursements for State officials appointed to the task force could be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: Community college representatives appointed to the task force could be reimbursed for any travel expenses from existing budgeted resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Background: There are approximately 12,300 students with disabilities attending public elementary and secondary schools in Maryland. It is not known how many attend

community colleges in the State. A study conducted for the Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence in 2001 concluded that, on average, the cost to educate an elementary or secondary student with a disability is equal to 217% of the cost to educate a nondisabled student.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Higher Education Commission, Baltimore City Community College, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 23, 2005
m/rhh Revised - House Third Reader - March 29, 2005

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