

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2005 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

Senate Bill 518 (Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee)  
(By Request – Departmental – Human Relations Commission)

Judicial Proceedings

Health and Government Operations

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**Human Relations Commission - Authorization to Receive Grants**

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This departmental bill authorizes the Human Relations Commission (HRC) to apply for and accept grants from State, federal, and private nonprofit organizations in furtherance of its mission.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Any increase in HRC revenues cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** HRC has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment. The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Under Maryland's unlawful employment practices law, HRC has jurisdiction over employers with 15 or more employees. The commission also enforces State laws prohibiting discrimination in housing and public accommodations. The commission has the power to administer oaths; issue subpoenas; compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses; and compel the production of books, papers, records, and documents relevant or necessary for proceedings.

**Background:** HRC advises that funds would be sought for nonenforcement activities such as publications, printing, advertising, and community education and outreach. HRC advises that it would seek grants from organizations that support its mission of reducing discrimination and improving human relations within the State.

**State Fiscal Effect:** HRC did not provide any information upon which to base an estimate of the funds it expects to or could receive.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Human Relations Commission, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 7, 2005  
mam/jr Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 25, 2005

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Analysis by: Michelle L. Harrison-Davis

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510