

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1150

(Delegate Ali, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Finance

Maryland Department of Transportation - Evaluation of the Telework
Partnership with Employers Initiative

This bill requires the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) to evaluate its Telework Partnership with Employers initiative using currently budgeted resources. MDOT must submit findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31, 2007.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2007.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. MDOT advises that it could perform the evaluation with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: MDOT currently operates the Telework Partnership with Employers program as a public-private teleworking program. It is not a program mandated by statute. The program provides grants for professional telework consulting services to Maryland employers to help them initiate or expand telework programs. The consultant must be from an MDOT-approved list of consultants. The average grant per employer to set up and maintain the program is \$15,000. It is operated in conjunction

with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

MDOT advises that it has assisted at least 100 employers through this program, including Discovery Communications. MDOT also advises that the program was funded at \$400,000 a year when it began, but that funding has been reduced. MDOT advises that it has included \$50,000 for this program in its fiscal 2008 budget and \$50,000 has been incorporated in the *FY 2007-2012 Consolidated Transportation Program* for the continued maintenance of the program.

State Expenditures: MDOT advises that the evaluation could be performed using existing resources. MDOT further advises that performing the study would not negatively impact the program's obligations and that it could still administer the expected number of grants.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 19, 2007
mll/ljm Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 27, 2007

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