

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 724
 Economic Matters

(Delegate Feldman, *et al.*)

Finance

Joint Information Technology and Biotechnology Committee - Membership and Duties

This bill renames and codifies the Joint Technology Oversight Committee to be the Joint Information Technology and Biotechnology Committee. The membership of the committee increases from 10 to 12 with the addition of one Senator and one Delegate. The duties of the committee expand to promote information technology and biotechnology among the public and private sectors and to act as a liaison with the Executive Branch on related issues. The committee is to continue providing reports of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, Legislative Policy Committee, Senate Finance Committee, and House Economic Matters Committee by December 1 each year.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures would increase by an estimated \$67,000 in FY 2009 to provide legislative committee staff support. Future year estimates reflect annualization, regular salary increases, and inflation. Revenues would not be affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	67,000	84,800	88,900	93,300	97,800
Net Effect	(\$67,000)	(\$84,800)	(\$88,900)	(\$93,300)	(\$97,800)

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Joint Technology Oversight Committee was established by the General Assembly in 2000 to review the implementation of the Maryland Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act and report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1 each year. The committee consists of five members of the Senate appointed by the President, and five members of the House appointed by the Speaker.

Background: Maryland is recognized as a leader in both the information technology and biosciences industries because of its private-sector growth and public-sector investment. Maryland has the highest concentration of professional and technical workers in the country (25.7%) with over 54,000 computer systems design employees (sixth in the nation), and more than 3,100 information technology degrees awarded in the State annually. Maryland also supports a biosciences industry of 370 firms with \$450 million in State investment in addition to \$12.2 billion in federal funds. The State's Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) has recently been recognized as the most active early/seed stage investor in the nation by a national business magazine.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures would increase by \$66,989 in fiscal 2009, which reflects the bill's October 1 effective date, and by at least \$84,828 annually beginning in fiscal 2010 for the Department of Legislative Services to hire one policy analyst to provide committee staff support. A full-time salary, fringe benefits, start-up costs, and operating expenses are included in this estimate.

	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2010</u>
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$62,396	\$84,614
Operating Expenses	4,593	241
Total State Expenditures	\$66,989	\$84,828

Future year expenditures reflect • full salaries with 4.4% annual increases and 3% employee turnover; and • 2% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 683 (Senator Rosapepe) – Finance.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 27, 2008
mll/rhh

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