

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 42 (Senator Conway)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Environmental Matters

Natural Resources - BayStat Subcabinet - Membership

This bill expands the membership of the BayStat Subcabinet to include a representative from the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances. Any expense reimbursements for the additional subcabinet member are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: BayStat was created by Executive Order 01.01.2007.02 in February 2007 as a joint project of the departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Environment, and Planning. It was established as an accountability process for measuring and evaluating State initiatives directed toward restoring the Chesapeake Bay, with the intent of ensuring those government programs are coordinated and operating at their highest efficiency.

Chapters 120 and 121 of 2008 generally codified the BayStat Program, established a BayStat Subcabinet and a related scientific advisory panel, expanded the program's

charge to include the Atlantic Coastal Bays, and expanded program duties to include administration of the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund.

The BayStat Subcabinet is composed of the Secretary of Natural Resources; the Secretary of the Environment; the Secretary of Planning; the Secretary of Agriculture; the President of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science; the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural and Resources at the University of Maryland, College Park; and the Chair of the Critical Area Commission. The BayStat Subcabinet meets on a monthly basis and is responsible for overseeing the administration of the BayStat Program.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

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