

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 693
Appropriations

(Delegate Lafferty, *et al.*)

**University System of Maryland - Designated Growth Institutions - Community
Impact Statement**

This bill requires any University System of Maryland (USM) institution designated for growth with a student population of at least 14,000 to submit a community impact statement to the General Assembly each year in which there is an increase in the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students or when the institution updates its Master Plan.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Higher education expenditures increase approximately \$60,000 in FY 2010 to hire a consultant to prepare the required annual community impact statement. Future year expenditures reflect the cost of hiring a consultant to annually update the statement. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Higher Ed Exp.	60,000	5,000	5,100	5,100	5,200
Net Effect	(\$60,000)	(\$5,000)	(\$5,100)	(\$5,100)	(\$5,200)

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

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The institution must submit the community impact statement to the General Assembly at the same time as the institution's request for a budget appropriation and post the community impact statement prominently on its web site.

A community impact statement must describe the expected impacts of and the proposed mitigation of expected impacts on the growth of the designated growth institution during the following academic year on the following areas:

- roads and transportation systems of the community external to and adjacent to the institution's campus;
- housing of incoming students;
- surrounding community neighborhoods;
- the institution's system of monitoring and tracking of, and applying appropriate discipline to, students living off-campus within a 10-mile radius of the campus;
- investment in the local community;
- local government services, including police, transportation, and code enforcement; and
- except for faculty, institutional personnel necessary to meet the needs of the institution's growth.

Current Law: USM is an independent unit of State government that is managed by its Board of Regents. In consultation with the presidents of the USM institutions, the Chancellor of the Board of Regents are responsible for developing an overall plan for USM.

Background: USM has designed four USM institutions – Towson University (TU), Bowie State University, Salisbury University, and University of Maryland University College – for future enrollment growth under USM's Enrollment Funding Initiative (EFI). USM received \$30.2 million in general funds from fiscal 2007 to 2009 to support EFI. The Governor's proposed fiscal 2010 State budget does not provide EFI funding.

TU in Baltimore County is currently the only designated growth institution with a student population of 14,000 or more. TU recently updated its Master Plan to include a new \$45 million basketball arena on the campus. TU and the nearby community of Rodgers Forge reached an agreement in mid-February on the location of the new arena. Groundbreaking is scheduled for spring 2010.

USM advises that TU has implemented a system to track disorderly students and local police receive grants to cover large functions. In addition, the TU police department has memoranda of understanding with other police departments to provide additional help when needed.

State Expenditures: Higher education expenditures increase approximately \$60,000 in fiscal 2010 to hire a consultant to prepared the required annual community impact statement. USM advises hiring a consultant costs approximately \$250,000 per year. Legislative Services advises the cost for hiring a consultant is overstated and after completing the initial community impact statement, future year statements only require updates. TU currently collects most of the required data every five years for its Master Plan. Hiring a consultant to annually update the community impact statement costs approximately \$5,000 per year.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Montgomery, and St. Mary's counties; Maryland Department of Transportation; University System of Maryland; Department of Legislative Services

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ncs/rhh

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