

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1403

(Chair, Appropriations Committee)(By Request -
Departmental - Higher Education Commission)

Appropriations

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Plan for Higher Education Quadrennial Review - Reporting Date

This emergency departmental bill extends the deadline by which the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) must submit a quadrennial review of the State Plan for Higher Education to the Governor and the General Assembly from July 1, 2008 to July 1, 2009.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Extending the deadline by which MHEC must submit the first quadrennial review of the State Plan for Higher Education does not materially affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: MHEC has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Background: MHEC is required by statute to submit a quadrennial review of the State Plan for Higher Education (State Plan) by July 1, 2008, and every fourth year thereafter. Prior to 2006, MHEC was required to update the State Plan every two years. The State Plan was last updated in 2004. The State Plan is to establish statewide goals for postsecondary education and outline actions to achieve these goals. As a part of the process, MHEC will take into consideration the findings from the final report of the

Commission to Develop the Maryland Model for Funding Higher Education. The commission undertook a comprehensive review of higher education, examining how higher education is funded through both the operating and capital budgets; the development of a stable funding model; how higher education is meeting workforce needs and building research and technology capabilities; and the development of accountability measures consistent with the goals of the State Plan. In addition it commissioned a study group to examine the historically black institutions (HBIs) to recommend definitions for the terms “comparable and competitive” and to develop performance measures to assess the State’s progress in making the HBIs comparable and competitive with other public institutions.

However, during the 2008 session, the commission was granted an extension of the deadline for submission of the final report to December of 2008. Thus, in order to consider the findings in the final report of the commission and any legislation that may be enacted implementing the commission’s recommendations (House Bill 789 and Senate Bill 861 have been introduced this session), an extension to July 1, 2009, is needed to provide sufficient time for consideration and incorporation of these recommendations in the MHEC review.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Higher Education Commission, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 10, 2009
ncs/rhh

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: State Plan for Higher Education Quadrennial Review – Reporting Date

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 1403

PREPARED BY: Maryland Higher Education Commission

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

☒ WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESS

OR

☐ WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

The proposed legislation will have no impact on small business in Maryland.