

HOUSE BILL 1128

P4

0lr2996

By: **Delegates Serafini, Bates, Dwyer, Eckardt, Elliott, Frank, George, Kipke, McComas, McConkey, Norman, O'Donnell, Shank, Sossi, and Stocksdales**
Introduced and read first time: February 17, 2010
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Personnel – Innovative Idea Awards Program – Additional Cash**
3 **Awards**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that a certain additional cash award provided to certain
5 State employees under the Innovative Ideas Awards Program for certain
6 innovative ideas shall be equal to a certain percentage of the savings or gain to
7 the State from the innovative idea, up to a certain monetary limit; making
8 certain conforming changes; and generally relating to awards made under the
9 State Innovative Idea Awards Program.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
12 Section 10–203
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

18 10–203.

19 (a) In this section, “innovative idea” means an invention, innovative
20 suggestion, or any other innovative idea.

21 (b) There is an Innovative Idea Awards Program for employees.

22 (c) (1) An innovative idea award may be awarded for an innovative idea
23 that, if implemented, would:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (i) increase revenue to the State;
- 2 (ii) save money for the State;
- 3 (iii) improve the quality of services delivered to the public; or
- 4 (iv) otherwise significantly benefit the State.

5 (2) Except under exceptional circumstances, an award may not be
6 made for an innovative idea that is under active study or continual review by a unit of
7 State government.

8 (d) (1) The head of each principal unit shall establish a labor-
9 management review committee, with half of the members being selected from the
10 exclusive representatives, if any, to evaluate and recommend awards for innovative
11 ideas by employees of that unit.

12 (2) (i) To the extent possible, within 60 days after an innovative
13 idea is submitted to the labor-management review committee, the head of the unit
14 shall decide whether to give an innovative idea award.

15 (ii) The innovative idea may be received directly from an
16 employee through an application, or forwarded by the employee's supervisor.

17 (e) For an innovative idea, the head of a principal unit may give an employee
18 of that unit a cash award of not more than:

19 (1) \$1,000 for an innovative idea with a reasonably ascertainable
20 monetary savings or gain to the State; or

21 (2) \$300 for any other innovative idea.

22 (f) (1) There is a Governor's Award Panel.

23 (2) The Governor's Award Panel consists of five members appointed by
24 the Governor, at least three of whom shall be public members who serve without
25 compensation.

26 (g) (1) The head of a principal unit, in consultation with the labor-
27 management review committee, shall submit to the Governor's Award Panel each
28 innovative idea for which an award is made under subsection (e) of this section, with a
29 recommendation for any additional award by the Governor.

30 (2) The Governor's Award Panel shall:

31 (i) review each innovative idea submitted to it;

1 (ii) at least once a year, make a recommendation to the
2 Governor about additional awards for the innovative ideas; and

3 (iii) recommend to the Governor either monetary or
4 nonmonetary awards for the employees' innovative ideas.

5 (h) (1) **[The] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
6 Governor may make an additional cash award for an innovative idea.

7 (2) **[The] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
8 cash award **[may not exceed \$20,000] FOR AN INNOVATIVE IDEA WITH A**
9 **REASONABLY ASCERTAINABLE MONETARY SAVINGS OR GAIN TO THE STATE**
10 **SHALL BE EQUAL TO 10% OF THE SAVINGS OR GAIN TO THE STATE.**

11 **(3) THE VALUE OF A CASH AWARD PROVIDED UNDER THIS**
12 **SUBSECTION MAY NOT EXCEED \$20,000.**

13 **[(3)] (4)** The Governor may grant paid administrative leave, not
14 exceeding 20 workdays.

15 (i) The State's use of an innovative idea:

16 (1) does not entitle the employee submitting the innovative idea to an
17 award under this section; and

18 (2) does not give rise to any claim by the employee or the heirs or
19 assigns of the employee.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2010.