

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 77 (Senator Conway, *et al.*)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Department of Housing and Community Development - Security for Senior Housing

This bill adds to the list of general functions and responsibilities of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) the requirement to provide security between dusk and dawn at each federally subsidized senior housing property that the department manages or contracts to have managed. The Secretary of Housing and Community Development must adopt by regulation standards for providing this security.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not anticipated to affect State finances or resources as DHCD is not currently involved with the management of federally subsidized senior housing properties.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The 10 principal functions and responsibilities established by statute for DHCD are as follows:

- encourage and assist political subdivisions and public and private community organizations to develop mutual and cooperative solutions to their common problems;

- serve as a clearinghouse for information and materials that may be pertinent to sound community assistance, including information on available federal, State, and private financial assistance and technical assistance;
- implement model or demonstration programs and projects or otherwise provide a program of practical research in community assistance;
- provide grants and loans for energy conservation and the use of solar energy in commercial and residential buildings;
- provide advisory, consultative, training, and educational services, and technical assistance to any political subdivision, local public agency, or nonprofit organization for community assistance purposes;
- contract for and accept a gift, grant, contribution, or loan of money, property, or other aid for community assistance from a governmental unit, the federal government, or another source and comply with the terms and conditions of that aid;
- attach terms and conditions to financial assistance as the Secretary of Housing and Community Development determines;
- participate with political subdivisions, regional governments, organizations, and the federal government in developing, financing, and implementing a program to build the management capabilities of municipal corporations by supplying needed managerial expertise through circuit riding managers;
- administer federal programs to community assistance; and
- develop and implement a weatherization program and administer the low-income weatherization component of the State's Electric Universal Service Program.

Background: DHCD advises that it does not own, manage, or contract for the management of any senior housing projects. However, DHCD provides financing for senior housing development through several programs such as the Group Home Financing Program and the Elderly Rental Housing Program with funding from the Rental Housing Programs Fund.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Housing and Community Development,
Department of Legislative Services

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