

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 15 (Senator Benson)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

The Show Place Arena in Prince George's County - Study Commission

This bill establishes a study commission on The Show Place Arena in Prince George's County. The study commission is required to (1) examine the current mission, operations, and competitive position of the arena; (2) examine the capacity and the ability of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) to effectively own, operate, and manage the arena; (3) make recommendations regarding the arena's competitive position; (4) make recommendations regarding the feasibility of transferring the ownership, operation, and management of the arena to another public entity; and (5) if transfer of ownership, operation, and management of the arena is not recommended, then make recommendations on the feasibility of reorganizing the arena within M-NCPPC. The study commission is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2012.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2012, and terminates May 31, 2013.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Any expense reimbursements for study commission members can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None. Prince George's County can staff the study commission with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: The Show Place Arena in Prince George's County is a multipurpose facility capable of hosting a variety of sporting events and concerts with a seating capacity of over 4,500. The arena recorded a net loss in operating income (excluding depreciation) of \$2.8 million in fiscal 2010, following annual losses of \$1.9 million to \$2.3 million in fiscal 2007 through 2009. The arena is owned, operated, and managed by M-NCPPC.

Established in 1927, M-NCPPC has jurisdiction over parks and land use planning in most of Montgomery and Prince George's counties. The commission is funded primarily through various property taxes authorized under Article 28 of the Annotated Code of Maryland and imposed by Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Municipal League, Prince George's County, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 12, 2012
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