

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 67

(Chair, Ways and Means Committee)(By Request -
Departmental - Office for Children)

Ways and Means

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program - Composition

This departmental bill repeals a requirement for the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program to include early intervention services provided or supervised by the Governor's Office for Children (GOC).

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill does not substantively change State operations or finances as GOC does not currently provide or supervise early intervention services.

Local Effect: None.

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

Analysis

Current Law/Background: The Infants and Toddlers Program within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) provides early intervention services for children with developmental delays and disabilities and their families beginning at birth until the child reaches kindergarten age. The purpose of the program is to provide a statewide, community-based interagency system of comprehensive early intervention services designed to meet the developmental needs of each eligible child and the needs of the family relating to the child's development in order to enhance a child's potential for growth and development before the child reaches school age.

These services can include assistive technology devices and services, audiology, counseling services, parent counseling and training, health services, medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes, nursing services, nutrition services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological services, recreation, social work services, special education, speech pathology, vision services, and transportation.

Statutory language requires the program to include services provided or supervised by MSDE, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Human Resources, and GOC. However, GOC advises that it does not provide or supervise early intervention services and has not had a connection to the program since it was transferred from the Office for Children, Youth and Families (the predecessor to GOC) to MSDE. Accordingly, the bill will not impact the program's ability to serve its intended purpose. GOC also indicates that the requirement's repeal is critical to the goal of streamlining government, identifying efficiencies, and eliminating unnecessary and obsolete obligations.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Governor's Office for Children, Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 27, 2016
md/rhh

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS

TITLE OF BILL: Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program - Composition

BILL NUMBER: HB 67

PREPARED BY: Governor's Office for Children
(Dept./Agency)

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESSES

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS