

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 1603

(Delegate Sanchez, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Judicial Proceedings

Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board - Data Collection on Race and Ethnicity

This bill requires the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board to develop best practices for the collection of data on race and ethnicity, among other duties. By November 30, 2019, the board must report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly. **The bill terminates September 30, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: It is anticipated that the board can handle the additional responsibilities with existing resources. State agencies can use existing resources to provide information regarding the categories of race and ethnicity data used.

Local Effect: Local agencies can use existing resources to provide information regarding the categories of race and ethnicity data used.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The board must also (1) review categories of race and ethnicity data used by State and local agencies across the State; (2) identify and examine the most appropriate categories of race and ethnicity data for use by government agencies; (3) identify and examine administrative, technological, and logistical changes needed to achieve standardized data collection across agencies and jurisdictions; and (4) make recommendations on policy and practice changes and capital expenditures necessary to achieve standardization of data collection. The board may delegate these activities to a specified advisory board.

Current Law/Background: There are no universal data collection practices regarding race and ethnicity used by State and local agencies. The Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board was created by the Justice Reinvestment Act (Chapter 515 of 2016) and is housed within the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention. Among other responsibilities, the board must make legislative and budgetary recommendations for future data-driven, fiscally sound criminal justice policy changes. Chapter 515 also established an advisory board that includes specified stakeholders in the criminal justice system and is responsible for analyzing the implementation of justice reinvestment initiatives.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 1109 (Senator Ramirez) - Rules.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Planning; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2018
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Analysis by: Jennifer K. Botts

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510