

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 409 (Senator Robinson, *et al.*)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Task Force to Study the Residential Environment of Seniors in Baltimore City

This bill establishes the Task Force to Study the Residential Environment of Seniors in Baltimore City, which must be staffed by the Office of the Mayor of Baltimore City. By December 1, 2018, the task force must report its findings and recommendations to the Mayor of Baltimore City, the Baltimore City Council, and the Baltimore City House and Senate delegations to the General Assembly. Members of the task force are entitled to reimbursement under standard State travel regulations, as provided in the State budget. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018, and terminates June 30, 2019.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Participation in the task force, including reimbursement for expenses, can be handled with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: Any reimbursement for task force members and staffing costs are considered to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The task force must study (1) rent policies in senior residential buildings or communities, including the methods by which rent is determined; (2) the safety and security inside and outside of senior residential buildings; and (3) the activities and recreational programs offered to residents of senior residential buildings and communities. The task force must make recommendations regarding the improvement of the residential environment of seniors living in Baltimore City, specifically in these areas.

Current Law/Background: The total number of senior residential buildings or communities in Baltimore City is unknown. Baltimore City *operates* two facilities that likely qualify as senior residential buildings as included in the bill. The number of facilities is expected to decrease to one during 2018, when one of the facilities is transitioned to private operation.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Maryland Department of Aging; Department of Housing and Community Development; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of Legislative Services

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mm/jc

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