

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2020 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader**

House Bill 1141  
Economic Matters

(Delegate Haynes, *et al.*)

Finance

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**Labor and Employment - Apprenticeship Career Training Pilot Program for  
Formerly Incarcerated Individuals - Report**

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This bill requires the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL) to report to the General Assembly, by September 30, each year on the progress in achieving the purpose of the Apprenticeship Career Training Pilot Program for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals for the immediately preceding calendar year. The report must also include the number and types of employers that received grants, the grant amount by employer, and the total number of apprentices and number of apprentices by employer that participated in the program. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill's requirements can be absorbed within MDL's existing budgeted resources. No effect on revenues.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** Chapter 726 of 2019 established the Apprenticeship Career Training Pilot Program for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals in MDL. The purposes of the program are (1) to develop a well-trained, productive construction workforce that meets the needs of the State's economy; (2) to encourage employers to hire formerly incarcerated individuals in the construction industry; and (3) to help employers offset additional costs, if any, associated with hiring apprentices.

As provided in the State budget, MDL must administer the pilot program and provide grants on a competitive basis to employers that employ formerly incarcerated apprentices who live in Baltimore City or Dorchester County and meet specified criteria. The grant is a maximum of \$1,000 for each qualified apprentice. An employer is eligible to receive a grant for each formerly incarcerated employee who has worked for the employer for at least seven months, is engaged in a building or construction trade, and lives in Baltimore City or Dorchester County. Additionally, the apprentice must be enrolled in the first year of a registered apprenticeship program. The Governor must include at least \$100,000 annually in the State budget for fiscal 2021 through 2023 to provide grants to eligible employers and to cover administrative costs.

MDL advises that it is currently developing regulations and policies governing the program, and that program activity will begin later in the year.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 14, 2020  
mr/mcr Third Reader - March 3, 2020

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