

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
 Enrolled - Revised

House Bill 660

(Delegate Guyton, *et al.*)

Ways and Means

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Commission to Study the Division of Rehabilitation Services (Student Job Training Reformation Act)

This bill establishes a Commission to Study the Maryland State Department of Education’s (MSDE) Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS). The bill specifies commission membership and requires that DORS staff the commission. Commission members may not receive compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses. The commission must evaluate and make recommendations on specified subjects related to improvements to DORS’s programs and services. The commission must meet at least five times between June 1, 2022, and December 15, 2022. The commission must report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 15, 2022. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2022, and remains in effect until June 30, 2023.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures increase by \$85,800 in FY 2023 to cover DORS staff time that cannot be handled with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	85,800	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$85,800)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: DORS is generally responsible for efforts to rehabilitate and place in gainful employment individuals who are disabled and susceptible to rehabilitation and to rehabilitate individuals to function more independently. DORS provides funds from the Employment Program Fund to accredited community rehabilitation and employment agencies. DORS is also responsible for provision of a coordinated set of activities for transitioning students with a disability that promotes movement from school to postsecondary activities, including postsecondary education, vocational training, integrated employment, supported employment, adult services, independent living, and community participation.

State Expenditures: MSDE advises that DORS is funded by federal Rehabilitation Services – Vocational Rehabilitation funds, and State general funds used to satisfy the State match and maintenance of effort requirements. Staff time spent serving and/or staffing the commission is not an allowable use of these federal or State funds. Accordingly, general fund expenditures amounting to the *equivalent* of one half-time contractual position, with salary and fringe benefit costs of approximately \$84,800, will be required. Given the effective timeframe of the bill, it is assumed that these costs, plus approximately \$1,000 for expense reimbursements to commission members, will occur during fiscal 2023.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 21, 2022
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