

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 119

(Chair, Economic Matters Committee)(By Request -
Departmental - Office of Small, Minority, and Women
Business Affairs)

Economic Matters

**State Government - Research Duties and Advisory Committee on Black Males -
Repeal**

This departmental bill repeals a requirement that the Governor’s Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) conduct research to determine the nature and extent of problems concerning Black males and offer recommendations exclusively pertinent to Black males in the areas of unemployment, criminal justice, education, and health. The bill also repeals a related annual reporting requirement, and the authority of the Special Secretary for GOSBA to create an Advisory Committee on Black Males.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill repeals obsolete statutory provisions, as discussed below.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: GOSBA 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: Current law requires GOSBA to conduct necessary and appropriate research to determine the nature and extent of the problems concerning Black males and offer recommendations exclusively pertinent to Black males in the areas of unemployment, criminal justice, education, and health. As authorized by the Governor, the Special

Secretary may create an Advisory Committee on Black Males to assist and advise GOSBA in developing recommendations regarding any of the issue areas facing Black males. GOSBA must submit its findings and recommendations annually to the Governor and the General Assembly.

Background: The requirement to study and report on issues facing Black males was first enacted by Chapter 450 of 1994, under a different iteration of GOSBA then known as the Office of Minority Affairs. GOSBA advises that the requirement is obsolete as GOSBA has not conducted any research on Black males or submitted the required report for at least the past 20 years, as it does not have the personnel or resources to conduct such research.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 243 (Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee)(By Request - Departmental - Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs) - Education, Energy, and the Environment.

Information Source(s): Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 14, 2025
js/mcr

Analysis by: Andrew Stover

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: State Government - Research Duties and Advisory Committee on
Black Males - Repeal

BILL NUMBER: HB 119

PREPARED BY: Davon Gardner

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

 X WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESS

OR

 WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

N/A