

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 147
(Delegate Guzzone)
Government, Labor, and Elections

Nonprofit Organizations Navigator - Termination Provision - Repeal

This bill repeals the termination provision associated with the nonprofit organizations navigator within the Department of Commerce, thereby, making the requirement for the position permanent. Thus, the navigator must continue to provide technical assistance to nonprofit organizations, resolve grant-making delays, and share information on funding opportunities. Also, the navigator must continue to represent the interests and concerns of nonprofit organizations as a member of the Maryland Efficient Grant Application (MEGA) Council. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: No likely effect in FY 2027, under the assumptions discussed below. General fund expenditures for Commerce increase by \$92,200 in FY 2028 to convert the existing contractual nonprofit organizations navigator position to a regular position; future year expenditures reflect ongoing costs due to making the position permanent. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	92,200	96,500	100,900	105,300
Net Effect	\$0	(\$92,200)	(\$96,500)	(\$100,900)	(\$105,300)

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: Chapters 314 and 315 of 2025 established the nonprofit organizations navigator within Commerce, with intent language that the position be filled by July 1, 2025 (funding to do so was included in the fiscal 2026 budget). The provisions establishing the position and its duties terminate June 30, 2027.

The navigator must:

- provide technical assistance to nonprofit organizations in obtaining access to and applying for State grant programs;
- work with nonprofit organizations and units of State government to resolve procedural complexities and delays in State grant-making processes;
- collect and share information on opportunities for federal, State, and local grants with nonprofit organizations; and
- represent the interests and concerns of nonprofit organizations as a nonvoting member of the MEGA Council (through the termination date of the council).

By January 1, 2027, Commerce must report to specified committees on the following information for fiscal 2026: (1) the number of nonprofit organizations that received technical assistance; (2) the total number of grant applications completed and submitted as a result of receiving technical assistance; (3) the total amount of grant funds awarded to nonprofit organizations as a result of receiving technical assistance; and (4) any findings and recommendations regarding implementation of the navigator position.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures increase by \$92,213 in fiscal 2028, increasing to \$105,324 in fiscal 2031, to make the position permanent. There is likely no fiscal impact in fiscal 2027, despite the bill's July 1, 2026 effective date, as the position is already funded as a contractual through that year. Instead, this estimate assumes the position converts to a regular position on July 1, 2027 (when the requirement for it would otherwise terminate absent the bill). The estimate for the new regular position includes a full salary, fringe benefits, and ongoing operating expenses; it does not include operating equipment as that equipment has already been provided to the contractual navigator and is assumed to continue to be used. If the position is converted during fiscal 2027, general fund expenditures increase minimally to cover the fringe benefits for that year.

Position	1.0
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$89,408
Ongoing Operating Expenses	2,805
Total FY 2028 State Expenditures	\$92,213

Future year expenditures reflect a salary with annual increases and employee turnover as well as annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

Additional Comments: The MEGA Council was established in 2020 to streamline the State grant's life cycle and is scheduled to terminate June 30, 2029.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: SB 69 (Senator Kagan) - Finance.

Information Source(s): Department of Budget and Management; Department of Commerce; Governor's Office; Legislative Services

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jg/ljm

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