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## House Bill 1453

Date: February 21, 2020  
Committee: Economic Matters  
Bill Title: Home Builder Registration and Home Improvement Licenses - Professional Education Requirements  
RE: Letter of Information

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House Bill 1453 requires certain contractor licensees to complete at least one approved professional education course during the preceding two year licensing term. The Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) has never administered a professional education requirement, and implementation of a professional education program will require MHIC to hire two new staff members to manage the requirements under House Bill 1453.

MHIC will need to develop a new process that will allow the agency to review and approve the course curriculum submitted by each professional education instructor. Pursuant to House Bill 1453, MHIC would be required to review and approve the course curriculums within an expedited two week time period as required in this legislation. Course curriculums will need to be collected and reviewed, not only from all Maryland jurisdictions, but from instructors that offer the professional education course conducted in other states.

MHIC staff will be tasked with reviewing and researching a curriculum that may include new state and federal laws, regulations, policies, or technologies affecting the work of a licensee. This review requirement will be time consuming and will include a research component, covering a wide range of topics, to determine if each curriculum is legitimate. The number of course instructors and different course curriculums may easily reach 100 or more. It is anticipated that at least one full time MHIC staff member will be required to review, approve, record, and maintain each course curriculum submitted by each individual professional education course instructor.

MHIC will need to work with the Department of Labor IT staff to design a database that will track which licensees will be required to complete a professional education course and which licensees will be waived. This system must be able to accept and record a certificate of completion as submitted by the course instructor or licensee. The database must retain the education records for each licensee. Renewal applications will only be mailed after the records show that the licensee has completed the required number of course hours.

To fully implement the requirements under House Bill 1453, MHIC would require two full time staff members.