

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 81

(Chair, Finance Committee)(By Request - Departmental -
Labor, Licensing and Regulation)

Finance

Economic Matters

**Education and Workforce Training Coordinating Council for Correctional
Institutions - Membership**

This departmental bill authorizes specified members of the Education and Workforce Training Coordinating Council for Correctional Institutions to be represented on the council by a designee. Specifically, except for the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services and the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, *ex officio* members of the council may be represented on the council by a designee.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill has no operational impact.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (DLLR) 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/Background: The council was established by Chapter 134 of 2008, which transferred responsibility for adult education and literacy services and correctional services education from the Maryland State Department of Education to DLLR. The council must develop and recommend an educational and workforce training program for adult correctional institutions in the State. The council must also adopt regulations for a mandatory education program for inmates who fail to attain specified minimum

educational standard as well as regulations for a mandatory workforce skills training program. Further, the council must advocate and promote the interests of educational programs and workforce skills training opportunities in correctional institutions and regularly review these programs to ensure that educational and training needs of inmates are being met.

Chapter 309 of 2009 increased the number of members on the council from 7 members to 14. In addition to four members appointed by the Governor (two representing the business community, one former offender, and one member of the general public), the following serve *ex officio*:

- the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services;
- the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation;
- the State Superintendent of Schools;
- the Secretary of Higher Education;
- the Secretary of Business and Economic Development;
- a president of a community college in the State;
- the Chair of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board;
- the Director of Education and Workforce Skills Training for Correctional Institutions;
- an official from a local correctional facility; and
- a county superintendent of schools from a county where a State correctional facility is located (who is selected by the State Superintendent).

The council must meet four times each year and must annually report to the Governor and the General Assembly. DLLR advises that the council, which by its rules requires a simple majority of eight members to achieve a quorum, frequently fails to acquire a quorum at its meetings.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 14, 2013
ncs/rhh

Analysis by: Scott P. Gates

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510

ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Labor and Employment – Correctional Institutions – EWTCCCI Council

BILL NUMBER: SB 81

PREPARED BY: Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

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

The proposed legislation will have no impact on small business in Maryland.