

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 115
Judiciary

(Delegate Conaway)

Task Force to Study Firearms and Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) Devices

This bill establishes a Task Force to Study Firearms and Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) Devices. The task force must (1) study the feasibility, utility, benefits, and costs of using GPS technology to track and monitor firearms sold and possessed in the State and (2) make recommendations regarding legislative options. The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) must provide staff for the task force. Task force members may not receive compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses. The task force must report its finding and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31, 2014.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2014, and terminates June 30, 2015.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursement for task force members and staffing costs for GOCCP are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Background: In 2011 and 2013, legislation was introduced in the Massachusetts legislature to create a study commission on firearms and GPS devices. No action was taken on either bill.

In addition, the Connecticut legislature recently studied the feasibility of installing GPS devices on firearms. The report, which was released in January 2013, addressed the potential costs of adding GPS equipment on firearms and the potential disadvantage of using equipment.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, Connecticut Legislature, Massachusetts Legislature, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 27, 2014
mam/lgc

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