

Department of Legislative Services  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
 First Reader

House Bill 1482 (Delegate Solomon, *et al.*)  
 Health and Government Operations

Military Department – Study on Assisting Active Duty Service Members With  
 State Law and Regulatory Compliance

This bill requires the Military Department to study and make recommendations regarding (1) State laws and regulations that unnecessarily burden active duty service members and (2) establishing a program to provide assistance to active duty service members seeking to comply with State laws and regulations. By December 1, 2020, the department must report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2020, and terminates June 30, 2021.**

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$60,000 in FY 2021 only. Expenditures are not affected in FY 2020, despite the bill’s June 1, 2020 effective date. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	60,000	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$60,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease*

**Local Effect:** None. The bill only affects State government operations.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Bill Summary:** In conducting the study and making recommendations, the Military Department must:

- analyze State laws and regulations that may unnecessarily burden active duty service members;
- in order to ease the burden of active duty status and maintain an active duty service member's compliance with State laws and regulations, identify State laws and regulations (1) that may be amended in a manner that maintains the purpose of the law or regulation and (2) for which a waiver could be offered to active duty service members;
- evaluate the feasibility of implementing a program to assist active duty service members seeking to comply with State laws and regulations; and
- solicit input from appropriate parties, including active duty service members.

**Current Law:** The Military Department is responsible for the Maryland Air National Guard, the Maryland Army National Guard, the Maryland Defense Force, and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency. The Military Department also builds and maintains the armories and other facilities used by the Maryland National Guard. The Maryland National Guard may be called up by the Governor during State emergencies or may be activated by the U.S. Department of Defense.

**Background:** According to the Defense Manpower Data Center, there were 29,509 active-duty military and 18,826 national guard/reserve in Maryland as of September 30, 2019.

**State Expenditures:** General fund expenditures for the Military Department increase by \$60,000 in fiscal 2021 only to hire a consultant to research and conduct the required study. The department advises that it does not have the expertise to evaluate State laws and regulations. In addition, the study requires access to active duty service member data that the department does not have. Thus, the department needs to hire a consultant to conduct the required study.

Despite the bill's June 1, 2020 effective date, it is assumed that there is no impact in fiscal 2020 and that the Military Department hires the consultant to begin work on July 1, 2020.

## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Military Department; Defense Manpower Data Center;  
Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 6, 2020  
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