

Department of Legislative Services  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
 Enrolled - Revised

Senate Bill 184

(Senator Lam, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Appropriations

University of Maryland, Baltimore - Study on the Health Effects of Air Traffic Noise

This bill requires the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) to study the health effects of air traffic noise on communities near the Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall (BWI) Airport since the implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen). The Governor must include an appropriation of at least \$100,000 for the study in the fiscal 2022 budget. By September 1, 2022, UMB must report the results of the study to the Governor; the General Assembly; and the county executives and county councils of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George’s counties.

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$100,000 in FY 2022 to complete the study, as discussed below. Revenues are not affected. **This bill establishes a mandated appropriation for FY 2022.**

(in dollars)	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	100,000	0	0	0
Net Effect	\$0	(\$100,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Bill Summary:** UMB must evaluate (1) health outcomes in communities near BWI before and after the implementation of NextGen, including cardiovascular diseases, generalized anxiety disorder, and other conditions reasonably related to air traffic noise; (2) costs associated with these health outcomes; and (3) cost savings generated due to the implementation of NextGen. To complete the study, the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) must provide any available data requested by UMB, and UMB may also use medical claims data.

**Background:** In 2003, the Federal Aviation Administration began developing NextGen to modernize the national air transportation system. NextGen is intended to produce long-term economic and environmental benefits in an effort to make flying more safe, efficient, and predictable. Technological advances under NextGen have mitigated some airport noise; however, the number and frequency of flights continues to increase.

According to the journal *Noise & Health*, aircraft noise can disrupt sleep, adversely affect academic performance in children, and increase the risk of cardiovascular disease for people living in the vicinity of airports.

**State Expenditures:** General fund expenditures increase by \$100,000 in fiscal 2022 to complete the study. This estimate assumes general funds are appropriated to meet the mandate, rather than Transportation Trust Fund and higher education monies. MAA advises it can provide any available data requested by UMB using existing resources.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** HB 310 (Delegate Hill, *et al.*) - Appropriations.

**Information Source(s):** Federal Aviation Administration; *Noise & Health*; University System of Maryland; Department of Budget and Management; Maryland Department of Health; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**  
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First Reader - January 29, 2020  
Third Reader - March 15, 2020  
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 15, 2020  
Revised - Updated Information - March 15, 2020  
Enrolled - April 2, 2020  
Revised - Amendment(s) - April 2, 2020

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