

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 1136
Economic Matters

(Delegate Atterbeary)

Finance

State Government - Office of Program Evaluation and Government
Accountability - Review of State Workforce Development Programs

This bill requires the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA) in the Department of Legislative Services (DLS), by June 1, 2024, to (1) conduct a review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the State’s workforce development programs and (2) for the period covering calendar years 2018 through 2022, submit a report to the General Assembly. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2023, and terminates June 30, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: DLS can complete the review and submit the report with existing budget resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The review must include: (1) conducting an inventory of each workforce development program or service officered by a State agency or local public authority; (2) for each program or service, determining who is served and the eligibility requirements for the program or service; and (3) determining whether any overlap, duplication gaps, or fragmentation exists among the programs and services.

The report must include: (1) a description of all workforce development programs run by a State agency or local public authority, including an evaluation of whether there is any

overlap or duplication of the program with another program; (2) the number of individuals receiving job training or job readiness services at each location; (3) the number of individuals placed in permanent jobs, who maintain employment for a year or more at each location; and (4) an assessment of whether there are any gaps or fragmentation in the populations served by programs or services, as specified.

Current Law:

Workforce Development Programs

The State administers a variety of programs related to workforce development. For example, the Governor's Workforce Development Board, housed within the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL), develops strategies and coordinates efforts among agencies to deliver education and training for anyone seeking employment. The board works with 12 local workforce boards throughout the State, which aim to ensure that each area's workforce is well-prepared to meet the current and future needs of local businesses. Members are appointed by the Governor, and the board must submit an annual report to the Governor.

MDL's Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning supports the State's economic growth through a workforce development, education, and training system. It includes the Office of Apprenticeship and Training, which is responsible for registering and regulating apprenticeship programs in the State. The Apprenticeship and Training Council serves in an advisory capacity to the office.

Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability

Chapters 510 and 511 of 2019 established OPEGA within DLS. Generally, OPEGA must conduct performance evaluations of units of State government in accordance with a work plan developed by the OPEGA director in consultation with the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee. In addition, OPEGA may conduct an evaluation only if directed by specified entities or by legislation.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History:
rh/mcr

First Reader - March 5, 2023

Third Reader - March 17, 2023

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