

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 873

(Senator Garagiola, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Health and Government Operations

Task Force to Study State Assistance to Veterans

This bill extends the termination date of the Task Force to Study State Assistance to Veterans from December 1, 2007 to May 31, 2009. The bill also extends the task force's reporting deadlines, so that an interim report has to be submitted by December 1, 2007 and a final report by December 1, 2008. The Governor appoints the task force rather than the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. All appointments have to be made by July 1, 2007. The bill does not alter the scope of the task force's duties.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2007.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill would not materially impact State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Among other provisions, Chapter 290 of 2006 established the Task Force to Study State Assistance to Veterans and required the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Delegate to appoint all members by July 1, 2006. The task force has to make recommendations on the availability and accessibility of services for veterans, the efficiency of existing services, the feasibility of establishing new services for veterans, and the potential impact of an increased number of veterans returning from

military service. It was required to submit an interim report by December 1, 2006 and a final report by December 1, 2007 – the date it is currently slated to terminate. The Department of Legislative Services staffs the task force.

Background: As some task force members were never appointed, it did not meet during the 2006 legislative interim and the report due in December was not prepared.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1181 (Delegate Minnick, *et al.*) – Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 15, 2007
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