

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 114

(Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee)(By Request -
Departmental - Public Safety and Correctional Services)

Judicial Proceedings

Public Safety - Internal Investigative Unit - Name Change and Duties

This departmental bill renames the Internal Investigative Unit (IIU) of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) to be the Intelligence and Investigative Division of DPSCS. The bill also expands the scope of IIU to oversee and coordinate all of the intelligence efforts within DPSCS under the authority of the Secretary.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill codifies current practice and assignments within DPSCS.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: DPSCS has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Chapter 393 of 1999 established IIU as a separate agency within DPSCS. IIU's investigators were provided with the same authority, including arrest powers, as police officers on departmental property and, under certain circumstances, off site. IIU is charged with investigating all alleged criminal and professional misconduct violations committed by employees, as well as all criminal allegations made against inmates.

On April 23, 2013, a federal grand jury returned an indictment charging 25 individuals, including inmates and 13 correctional officers employed by DPSCS, with conspiring to run operations of the Black Guerilla Family (BGF) gang inside the Baltimore City Detention Center and related facilities. Charges included racketeering, drug distribution, money laundering, victim and witness retaliation, bribery, and extortion. According to the indictment, correctional officers helped leaders of the BGF smuggle cell phones, drugs, and other contraband into State correctional facilities.

To bolster departmental investigative capabilities, the Secretary transferred the functions of other DPSCS intelligence personnel to IIU. This bill codifies that action and complies with statutory requirements that the renaming of a unit within the department be codified at the next session of the General Assembly.

Since April 2013, through reorganization and expansion, IIU added 19 investigative positions, 13 intelligence positions, and 3 support staff positions. Five of the intelligence positions had already existed in DPSCS Security Operations prior to the expansion of the unit. The added positions effectively doubled the size of IIU.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services,
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 8, 2014
ns/lgc

Analysis by: Guy G. Cherry

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510

ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Public Safety –Internal Investigative Unit – Name Change and Duties

BILL NUMBER: SB 114

PREPARED BY: Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS