

Economic Impact Statement

Office of Legislative Oversight

Expedited Bill 8-22

Fire and Rescue Services – Length of Service Awards Program for Volunteers – Amendments

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) anticipates that enacting Expedited Bill 8-22 would have an insignificant impact on economic conditions in the County in terms of the Council's priority indicators.

BACKGROUND

Expedited Bill 8-22 would increase the amount of the Length of Service benefit to certain local fire and rescue department volunteers by 2.5 percent.¹ If enacted, the benefit increase would take effect as soon as it becomes law.²

INFORMATION SOURCES, METHODOLOGIES, AND ASSUMPTIONS

Per Section 2-81B of the Montgomery County Code, the purpose of this Economic Impact Statement is to assess Expedited Bill 8-22's impacts on County-based private organizations and residents in terms of the Council's priority economic indicators.³ In its Fiscal Impact Statement for the Bill, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) concludes that the 2.5 percent Length of Service benefit adjustment for certain eligible volunteers would increase County expenditures by \$23,175 over a six-year period, an average increase of \$3,863 per year. Residents who would receive the benefit would experience a net increase in household income, holding all else equal. However, given the minor overall increase in the Length of Service benefit, OLO concludes that the change in law would have negligible impacts on residents and private organizations in terms of the Council's priority indicators.

VARIABLES

Not applicable

¹ Expedited Bill 8-22; and Wellons to County Council, Memorandum.

² Ibid.

³ Montgomery County Code, Sec. 2-81B.

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IMPACTS

WORKFORCE ▪ TAXATION POLICY ▪ PROPERTY VALUES ▪ INCOMES ▪ OPERATING COSTS ▪ PRIVATE SECTOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT ▪ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ▪ COMPETITIVENESS

Businesses, Non-Profits, Other Private Organizations

Not applicable

Residents

Not applicable

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Not applicable

WORKS CITED

Montgomery County Code. [Sec. 2-81B, Economic Impact Statements](#).

Montgomery County Council. [Expedited Bill 8-22, Fire and Rescue Services – Length of Service Awards Program for Volunteers – Amendments](#). Introduced on April 19, 2022.

Office of Management and Budget. [Fiscal Impact Statement](#). Expedited Bill 8-22, Fire and Rescue Services – Length of Service Awards Program for Volunteers – Amendments. March 28, 2022.

Wellons, Christine to County Council. [Memorandum](#). Expedited Bill 8-22, Fire and Rescue Services – Length of Service Awards Program for Volunteers – Amendments. April 19, 2022.

CAVEATS

Two caveats to the economic analysis performed here should be noted. First, predicting the economic impacts of legislation is a challenging analytical endeavor due to data limitations, the multitude of causes of economic outcomes, economic shocks, uncertainty, and other factors. Second, the analysis performed here is intended to *inform* the legislative process, not determine whether the Council should enact legislation. Thus, any conclusion made in this statement does not represent OLO's endorsement of, or objection to, the Bill under consideration.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Stephen Roblin (OLO) prepared this report.