

## Department of Planning and Budget 2003 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** SB827

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed

**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron** Marsh

**3. Committee** Rules

**4. Title** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission.

**5. Summary/Purpose:**

Authorizes the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission to apply for, receive, and expend gifts, grants, donations, bequests, and other funds in connection with its duties. The Commission may also seek, accept, and direct the expenditure of public and private contributions to enable it to carry out the purposes of this chapter and to enhance its fiscal stability, financial management, and fund-raising abilities. This bill also establishes the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Fund into which gifts, grants, donations, and other funds obtained by the Commission will be deposited to provide financial support for its work, including private funds to support the King Living History and Public Policy Center, another entity created by the bill under the legislative branch of government.

The Commission is required by law to establish a memorial to Dr. King in the Commonwealth, which the Center fulfills. The Center, among other things, (i) will perform public policy analysis and scholarly inquiry and writing; (ii) acquire and preserve records, oral histories, and memorabilia documenting Dr. King's relationship with and impact on the Commonwealth; (iii) disseminate information concerning his life, work, teachings, writings, and philosophy; (iv) make the programs, activities, and resources of the Center available to public and private schools and the public; and (v) provide support for undergraduate and graduate study at the participating public and private institutions of higher education that comprise the Center.

In addition, the bill contains several technical amendments that conform the statute to the new legislative guidelines adopted by the Joint Rules Committee, and an emergency clause to allow the Commission to receive and expend pending donations and contributions.

**6. Fiscal Impact cannot be determined.**

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No

**8. Fiscal implications:** This proposal creates the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission Fund in the state treasury. This will be a non-reverting fund with disbursements made by the State Treasurer on warrants issued by the Comptroller based on signed requests from the chairman. Costs to administer the fund should be minimal.

The proposal also creates the Martin Luther King Living History and Public Policy Center within the legislative branch. Nine public and private higher education institutions shall compose the Center that will be funded through nonstate funds. There could be a small fiscal impact on the educational institutions that provide technical support to the Center. The proposal also allows the fund-raiser/grant writer for the Center to be an employee of one of the higher education institutions. The bill is unclear as to whether legislative or citizen members of the Board of Trustees can be reimbursed for expenses.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Institutions of higher education

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No

**11. Other comments:** None

**Date:** 01/13/03/amk

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cc:Secretary of Education