

(a) The Department of Legislative Services shall conduct a study of the fiscal and economic impacts of this Act on the public and private sectors.

(b) (1) In conducting this study, the Department shall consult with and obtain all necessary and appropriate information from the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, the Office of the Attorney General, local governments, and other appropriate units and persons.

(2) Each unit of the Executive Branch of State government and each unit of local government shall fully cooperate with the Department of Legislative Services and its employees and agents in the activities necessary or helpful in fulfilling the requirements of this section.

(3) Notwithstanding Title 10, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article or any other law, each governmental unit that is requested to provide information to the Department of Legislative Services in furtherance of this section shall provide the information promptly and without the necessity of further authorization.

(c) On or before January 1, 2009, the Department of Legislative Services shall report the findings of the study to the General Assembly, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The Commissioner of Labor and Industry shall study the impact on the standard of living of employees that results from allowing an employer to reduce the living wage rates paid under Section 1 of this Act by all or part of the hourly cost of the employer's contribution to a deferred retirement plan of the employer's employees.

(b) The study required under subsection (a) of this section shall include a review of living wage requirements in other jurisdictions in Maryland and nationally.

(c) The Commissioner of Labor and Industry shall report the findings and recommendations resulting from the study required under subsection (a) of this section, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2007.

SECTION ~~3~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or application to any contract awarded before the effective date of this Act.