

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1208 (Delegate Vallario, et al.)
Judiciary

Referred to Judicial Proceedings

Estates and Trusts - First Notices - First Class Mail

This amended bill allows required first notices pertaining to estates of decedents to be deposited as first class mail rather than restricted delivery mail. At the expense of the estate, orphans' courts may require or a personal representative may elect to have the first notice given by restricted delivery mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed to the last known address, with delivery restricted to the addressee.

The bill deletes all current provisions contrary to this change.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures would decrease by approximately \$225,000 annually as discussed below. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: Based on a limited survey of Registers of Wills, mailing costs for first notices could decrease by at least \$225,000 annually. This estimate is based on a savings of \$5 on each such mailing, which would be derived by depositing the notices as first class mail rather than restricted delivery (\$.32 vs. \$5.27). The Registers of Wills advise that there would be very few mailings where an orphans' court would require, or a personal representative would elect, a mailing by restricted delivery.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Registers of Wills,
Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 20, 1996

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Revised - House Third Reader - March 19, 1996

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