

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 421 (Delegate Vallario, *et al.*)

Judiciary

Referred to Judicial Proceedings

Courts - Evidence - Paid Bills

This amended bill provides that in civil actions, on the basis of specified testimony by the party or any other person with personal knowledge, a paid bill for goods or services provided is authentic and the charges of the provider are fair and reasonable. The paid bill shall be admitted into evidence only if the party who intends to introduce the bill files with the clerk of the court at least 60 days before the beginning of the trial (1) notice of the party's intent to introduce the bill without support of the testimony of the provider of the goods or services; and (2) a copy of the bill.

The legislation does not apply to the proof of the existence of a medical, dental, or other health condition, the opinion of a health care provider, or the necessity and the providing of medical, dental, or other health care. Nor does the legislation limit the admissibility of medical, dental, hospital, or other health care writings or records, or the right of a party to engage in discovery or confront a witness. The bill is applied prospectively only.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill does not substantively change State activities or operations.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal, to the extent that small business employees would not be required to come to court to testify about any goods or services provided to a party in a civil action.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 12, 1997
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