

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 992 (Delegates Malone and Rudolph)
Judiciary

Death Penalty Cases - Removal

This bill proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the General Assembly to restrict the automatic right of removal for death penalty cases by requiring a motion for automatic removal in a death penalty case within a limited period of time.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal, as discussed below.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The Maryland Constitution requires that proposed amendments to the Constitution be publicized in at least two newspapers in each county, if available, and in at least three newspapers in Baltimore City once a week for four weeks immediately preceding a general election. The costs associated with these requirements are borne by the State. It is anticipated that the budget of the State Board of Elections for fiscal 1999 will contain funding for publishing constitutional amendments for the 1998 general election.

Local Expenditures: If approved by the General Assembly, this constitutional amendment will be submitted to the voters at the 1998 general election. It should not require additional costs for the county election boards to administer the election.

Information Source(s): Office of the Public Defender, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Fiscal

Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 7, 1997

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