

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 94 (Chairman, Finance Committee)
(Departmental - Health and Mental Hygiene)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Disease Prevention - Tuberculosis

This departmental bill allows the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to get a court order to move an individual imprisoned for violation of tuberculosis treatment orders from a penal institution to a less restrictive setting for continuation of treatment. Any individual who does not comply with treatment and behave in an orderly manner will be reimprisoned, following a hearing.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources, as discussed below.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The average number of persons imprisoned for noncompliance with tuberculosis treatment is less than one per year. While the bill's requirements could result in additional work for the Judiciary, any additional workload is assumed to be minimal and could be handled with existing budgeted resources. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene envisions that the "less restrictive setting" would be the Deer's Head Center, a State chronic hospital which has three beds for tuberculosis patients.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Community and Public

Health Administration), Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Correction)

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