

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 626 (Prince George's County Delegation)
Judiciary

Prince George's County - Landlord and Tenant - Service of Process
PG 300-97

This bill allows for service of process on a tenant in Prince George's County to be directed to any person authorized under Maryland Rules to serve process. Current law requires that service of process be directed to the county sheriff.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential significant decrease in Prince George's County revenues. Expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful impact on small businesses as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Revenues: Fees for service of landlord and tenant papers in Prince George's County generate approximately \$2.3 million annually. Prince George's County revenues would decrease to the extent that service of process is not directed to the county sheriff. Although the reduction cannot be reliably estimated at this time, it could be significant.

Small Business Effect: This bill could allow small businesses to assume part or all of the service of process function currently performed by the county sheriff. This could have a positive impact on these businesses by enabling them to receive some or all of the revenues from service of process fees that are currently collected by the sheriff and placed in the county's general fund.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 19, 1997

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