

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

Senate Bill 658 (Senator Forehand, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Referred to Judiciary

---

**Evidence - Out of Court Statements**

---

This amended bill allows out of court statements of child abuse victims or a witness to such an offense against another child to be admissible in criminal or juvenile court proceedings, if the court finds the time, content, and circumstances of the statements are reliable.

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. This evidentiary change would not directly affect governmental finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

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

---

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 20, 1997

lc

Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 24, 1997

---

Analysis by: Lori Caldwell-Valentine

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710