

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 751 (Prince George's County Delegation)

Judiciary

Prince George's County - Employment of Prisoners
PG 301-98

This bill permits a court to provide for diminution of sentence for work release programs in Prince George's County. This change would make provisions for earned diminution of sentence apply in Prince George's County, as is the case in all but one other county, while leaving in place all existing special provisions that apply only in Prince George's County.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. This legislation would affect county inmates only.

Local Effect: Indeterminate.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Expenditures: Current law work release provisions exempt Montgomery and Prince George's counties, which have separate work release provisions. In Prince George's County, there are work release options for prisoners that include participation in education and job training programs. These provisions also allow for cancellation of earned diminution, if there is a violation of any of the program's conditions. However, there is no current provision by which a court may provide for diminution of sentence for work release in Prince George's County.

The effects of this change are dependent upon the discretion of the court, as well as the demeanor of the involved prisoners. However, since it can be assumed that this change will tend to lead to additional diminution credits, there should be some savings for the county in correction costs. The magnitude of such savings cannot be reliably measured at this time.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 20, 1998

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