Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 122 (Chairman, Judiciary Committee)

(Departmental - Public Safety and Correctional Services)

Judiciary

State Correctional Facilities - Abandoned Property - Contraband

This departmental bill authorizes a State correctional facility to confiscate currency and other specified contraband from inmates in State operated correctional facilities. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services is required to adopt regulations governing such confiscations and forfeitures. The bill prohibits forfeiture unless the inmate has been provided notice of the confiscation and of the right to a hearing. The bill clarifies existing authority of various correctional facilities to confiscate (and initiate forfeiture of) contraband, as well as to sell, convert, or otherwise dispose of abandoned property.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal effect on general fund revenues. Any costs associated with implementing the provisions of this bill can be handled with the existing budgeted resources of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: Any confiscated and forfeited cash resulting from the provisions of this bill would go to the general fund. It is assumed that the annual total of any such deposits would be minimal. Other confiscated property including weapons, alcohol, controlled dangerous substances, or other contraband would be, as appropriate, donated to charity, converted to institutional use(s), or disposed of as junk or trash.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Correction), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 8. 1999

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