Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 652 (Delegate Boschert. *et al.*)

Judiciary

Homicide - Use of Deadly Force in Residence - Defense

This bill provides that a person who uses deadly force within the person's residence is presumed to have held a reasonable fear of imminent peril of death or serious physical injury to the person or a member of the person's family or household, if the force is used against another who unlawfully and forcibly enters or has entered the person's residence. The bill further provides that a person using deadly force under the above-described circumstances is not civilly liable for any act or omission in protecting or attempting to protect the person or a member of the person's family or household.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not materially affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Office of the Public Defender, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 2, 1999

dmm/jr

Analysis by: Claire E. Rooney Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 946-5510

(301) 970-5510