

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1419 (Delegate Flanagan)
 Appropriations

Mass Transit Administration - Labor Disputes - Arbitration - Exceptions

This bill prohibits the Mass Transit Administration (MTA) from submitting a labor dispute to an arbitration board if the dispute concerns disciplinary action or termination of an employee whose actions jeopardized public safety, including using or being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol while driving an MTA-owned vehicle.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) expenditures would decrease by approximately \$60,000 in FY 2002, which reflects the bill's October 1, 2001 effective date. Out-years reflect annualization. Potential increase in TTF expenditures for litigation costs, which cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

(in dollars)	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SF Expenditure	(60,000)	(80,000)	(80,000)	(80,000)	(80,000)
Net Effect	\$60,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: If, in a labor dispute between the MTA and any employee validly represented by an accredited representative, the collective bargaining does not result in an

agreement, the MTA must submit the dispute to an arbitration board. The definition of a labor dispute is to be construed broadly and includes any controversy that involves:

- wages, salaries, hours, or other working conditions;
- benefits;
- grievances that arise; and
- collective bargaining agreements, including their terms, interpretation, or application.

State Expenditures: The MTA processes approximately 40 arbitration cases a year with an average cost of \$4,000 per case; about half of these cases involve a dispute with an employee regarding public safety (*e.g.*, running a red light). The legislation could therefore save approximately \$80,000 in arbitration fees annually (\$60,000 in fiscal 2002 due to the October 1 effective date).

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Transportation (Mass Transit Administration),
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – March 15, 2001
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