

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2020 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

Senate Bill 736 (Senator Miller)  
Budget and Taxation

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**Office of the Attorney General - Mandated Appropriation**

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This bill requires the Governor, for each fiscal year, to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of at least \$2,547,873 to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to fund 25 positions to combat and reduce violent crime in Baltimore City. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The Governor's proposed FY 2021 budget includes \$2,547,873 and 25 authorized positions for the Baltimore City Violent Crime Prosecution Division within OAG, which is likely to continue going forward. The bill ensures that the funding and positions are ongoing. **This bill establishes a mandated appropriation beginning in FY 2022.**

**Local Effect:** Local government finances are not directly affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The Attorney General acts as legal counsel to the Governor; the General Assembly; the Judiciary; and all departments, boards, and commissions (except the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights, the Public Service Commission, and the State Ethics Commission). OAG represents the State in all matters of interest to the State, including civil litigation and criminal appeals in all State and federal courts. The office also reviews legislation passed by the General Assembly prior to consideration by the Governor. The office is currently supported by 14 divisions: Legal Counsel and Advice; Securities;

Consumer Protection; Antitrust; Medicaid Fraud Control; Civil Litigation; Criminal Appeals; Criminal Investigation; Educational Affairs; Correctional Litigation; Contract Litigation; People's Insurance Counsel; the Juvenile Justice Monitoring Unit; and the newly created Baltimore City Violent Crime Prosecution Division.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Baltimore City; Department of Budget and Management; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 24, 2020  
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