

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2024 Session

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

House Bill 556  
Judiciary

(Delegate Attar)

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**Juvenile Law - Violations of Electronic Monitoring - Notification**

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This bill requires that if a child is placed in community detention under an electronic monitoring agreement and violates the agreement, the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) must notify the juvenile court, the State’s Attorney, and the child’s attorney within 24 hours after the violation.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill is not expected to materially affect State operations or finances, as discussed below.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not materially affect local government operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** “Community detention” is defined as a program monitored by DJS in which a delinquent child or a child alleged to be delinquent is placed in the home of a parent, guardian, custodian, or other fit person, or in shelter care, as a condition of probation or as an alternative to detention. Community detention includes electronic monitoring.

**State Expenditures:** DJS advises that the bill increases the agency’s required interactions with the courts, requires additional case management resources, and requires modifications to existing data/reporting systems. DJS cannot determine the fiscal impact of implementation of the bill at this time. Regardless, the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) advises that, assuming the bill does not substantially affect personnel coverage

within DJS or work hours for DJS personnel, any procedural changes and modifications to existing systems needed to implement the bill are unlikely to materially affect State finances or operations.

The Judiciary advises that it can implement the bill with existing budgeted resources.

The Office of the Public Defender (OPD) advises that the bill affects OPD operations (and potentially costs) to the extent notifications of violations under the bill result in additional violation of probation hearings. DLS advises that assuming overall compliance with electronic monitoring, the bill's notification requirement is unlikely to generate enough violation of probation hearings to require additional resources and materially affect OPD finances.

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### **Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Office of the Public Defender; Maryland State's Attorneys' Association; Department of Juvenile Services; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 7, 2024  
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