

BY: House Judiciary Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 578

(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “Public Safety Financing Reform Act of 1996” and substitute “Court Costs - State Aid for Police Protection, Criminal Injuries Compensation, and Victim and Witness Protection and Relocation”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 11 down through “protection” in line 13 and substitute “requiring certain funds to be paid to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund and the Victim and Witness Protection and Relocation Fund; establishing the Victim and Witness Protection and Relocation Fund; providing for the continuance, accounting, investment and receipt of funds, audit, and purpose of the Victim and Witness Protection and Relocation Fund; and generally relating to court costs”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, after line 4, insert:

“BY adding to

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

Section 770A

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, in line 20, strike “\$3.00” and substitute “\$2.50”; in line 22, strike “\$1.00” and substitute “FIFTY CENTS”; and in line 35, strike “\$1,500” and substitute “\$1,200”.

On page 3, in lines 4 and 15, in each instance, strike “\$25” and substitute “\$20”; in line 30, strike “ONE-FIFTH” and substitute “ONE-FOURTH”; strike in their entirety lines 32 through 36, inclusive, and substitute:

(Over)

“(F) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ANNUALLY PAY FROM THE COURT COSTS COLLECTED BY THE DISTRICT COURT UNDER SUBSECTIONS (A) AND (B)(1) OF THIS SECTION:

(1) \$500,000 INTO THE CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE 26A, § 17A OF THE CODE; AND

(2) \$125,000 INTO THE VICTIM AND WITNESS PROTECTION AND RELOCATION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE 27, § 770A OF THE CODE.

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

770A.

(A) (1) THERE IS A VICTIM AND WITNESS PROTECTION AND RELOCATION FUND.

(2) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL CONTINUING, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

(3) THE TREASURER SHALL SEPARATELY HOLD AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

(4) THE FUND SHALL BE INVESTED AND REINVESTED IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE FUNDS.

(5) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OR FEDERAL MATCHING FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE STATE FOR VICTIM AND WITNESS PROTECTION OR RELOCATION SHALL BE RETAINED TO THE CREDIT OF THE FUND.

(6) THE FUND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO AN AUDIT BY THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITS AS PROVIDED UNDER § 2-1215 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

(7) THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT THE FUND FROM RECEIVING FUNDS FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE.

(B) THE FUND SHALL BE USED TO FUND THE VICTIM AND WITNESS PROTECTION AND RELOCATION PROGRAM UNDER § 770 OF THIS ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, in Fiscal Year 1996, any unspent balance of an appropriation to the Victim and Witness Protection and Relocation Program shall revert to the Victim and Witness Protection and Relocation Fund.”;

in line 37, strike “2.” and substitute “3.”; and in line 38, strike “October” and substitute “July”.