

Department of Fiscal Services
 Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 830 (Delegate Kittleman)
 Commerce and Government Matters

Notaries Public - Qualifications, Application Procedure, and Appointment

This bill repeals requirements for senatorial approval of notary public applications, removes the senatorial district residency requirement, and stipulates that applications can be obtained only from the Secretary of State. Photocopies and reproductions of such applications are prohibited.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures would increase by about \$28,600 in FY 1997. Out-year expenditures reflect annualization and inflation. No effect on revenues.

(in dollars)	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
GF Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditures	28,600	32,800	33,900	35,100	36,300
Net Effect	(\$28,600)	(\$32,800)	(\$33,900)	(\$35,100)	(\$36,300)

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

Local Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The bill would require the Secretary of State to approve new notary public applications, a function that is currently performed by Senators. Responsibilities associated with approving notary public applications include verifying drivers' licenses, performing criminal background checks, and otherwise ensuring that applicants are upstanding citizens. Because the Secretary of State receives approximately 10,800 new notary applications per year, it is estimated that a Secretary II would be needed to handle the additional workload, which would increase general fund expenditures by \$28,595 in fiscal

1997. This reflects \$13,415 for the salary, fringe benefits, ongoing operating costs, one-time start up costs, and the October 1, 1996 effective date. The first year expenditures are itemized below:

Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$19,474
Operating Expenses	<u>9,121</u>
Total FY 1997 Expenditures	28,595

Future year expenditures reflect (1) full salaries with 3.5% annual increases and 3% employee turnover; and (2) 2% increase in ongoing operating expenses.

Information Source(s): Secretary of State, Department of Fiscal Services

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Analysis by: LaTaunya D. Howard
Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 841-3710
(301) 858-3710