

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 691 (Prince George's County and Montgomery County Delegations)
Judiciary

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - Police Force
PG/MC 20-96

This bill converts the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) security force to a regular police force.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The provisions of this bill can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: WSSC expenditures would increase by at least \$4,770 in FY 1997 and \$6,360 annually thereafter.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Expenditures: There are three significant differences between a special police agency and a regular police force: (1) meeting Police Training Commission standards; (2) complying with the Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights (LEOBR); and (3) accessing the Maryland Interagency Law Enforcement System (MILES). Because WSSC officers currently meet the standards set by the Police Training Commission and the bill exempts the officers from LEOBR, the first two items would not have a fiscal impact.

Assuming a minimum installation of one MILES terminal and one printer, MILES access charges would be \$4,770 in fiscal 1997 and at least \$6,360 annually thereafter. In addition, WSSC would be assessed installation and cabling charges, depending upon the number of terminals and their location.

With direct access to MILES, the need for local police departments to support WSSC police

with computer checks and other routine procedures would be reduced. These efficiencies are not expected to have a quantifiable effect on local budgets.

Information Source(s): Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Data Services Division), Department of Fiscal Services

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Analysis by: Robert C. Bates

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710