

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 122 (Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee)
(Departmental - State Police)
Judicial Proceedings

Inspection Station Personnel - Criminal Background Investigations

This departmental bill requires inspection station owners, supervisors, controllers, and mechanics to submit fingerprints and pay for criminal history investigations. The bill also repeals a requirement that the license renewal fee set by the Automotive Safety Enforcement Division of the Department of State Police not exceed the administrative cost of the renewal. The bill is effective July 1, 1996, and applies retroactively to current owners and employees of inspection stations.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund revenues and expenditures could increase by \$192,400 in FY 1997 and by an estimated \$9,700 annually thereafter.

(in dollars)	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
SF Revenues	192,400	9,700	9,700	9,700	9,700
SF Expenditures	192,400	9,700	9,700	9,700	9,700
Net Effect	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in revenues and expenditures.

Small Business Effect: A small business impact statement was not provided by the Department of State Police in time for inclusion in this fiscal note. A revised fiscal note will be issued when the department's assessment becomes available.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: Transportation Trust Fund revenues and expenditures would increase by an estimated \$192,360 in fiscal 1997 for criminal history checks of 1,490 inspection station owners and 2,860 mechanics. In future years, revenue and expenditure increases are based on an expectation that 230 new license requests will be received annually. These funds would be paid to the State Police by inspection station owners and employees and in turn paid to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Data Services Division of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services who will perform the required criminal history checks. Funds transferred to the Data Services Division are used to cover the costs of the records checks.

Additional revenue for the Transportation Trust Fund could come from the repeal of the limitation that the fees assessed by the State Police for license renewal not exceed the cost of issuing the renewals. Any such increase would depend upon the new fee set by the State Police.

The State Police charge \$5 for fingerprinting services. To the extent that people required to submit fingerprint cards get them at State Police Barracks, general fund revenue could increase, although the amount of any increase cannot be reliably determined at this time.

Local Effect: Local law enforcement agencies charge varying amounts for fingerprinting services. To the extent that people required to submit fingerprint cards get them at local law enforcement offices, local revenues and expenditures could increase. Any increase cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police; Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 10, 1996

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