

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 973 (Delegate Rosenberg, et al.)
Judiciary

Contributions - International Terrorism

This bill prohibits a person from soliciting or making “contributions” to an “international terrorist organization” if the person has actual knowledge that the contributions will be used for violent and illegal acts of “international terrorism.”

Violators are guilty of a felony and subject to a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or both.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential, indeterminate increase in general fund expenditures due to the bill’s penalty provisions. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: Potential, indeterminate increase in revenues and expenditures due to the bill’s penalty provisions.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures could increase as a result of the bill’s incarceration penalty due to more people being committed to a Division of Correction (DOC) facility and increased payments to counties for reimbursement of inmate costs, depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed. Information is not readily available to estimate the number of persons who could be prosecuted as a result of this bill.

Persons serving a sentence longer than one year are incarcerated in a DOC facility. In fiscal 1997 the average monthly cost per inmate is estimated at \$1,400. For illustrative purposes, under the bill’s maximum incarceration penalty the average time served would be 60 months. Thus State costs could increase by \$84,000 for each person imprisoned under the bill.

Persons serving a sentence of one year or less are sentenced to a local detention facility. The State reimburses counties for part of their per diem rate after a person has served 90 days. State per diem reimbursements for fiscal 1997 are estimated to range from \$10 to \$48 per inmate depending upon the jurisdiction. Persons sentenced in Baltimore City are incarcerated in the Baltimore City Detention Center (BCDC), a State operated facility. The per diem cost for fiscal 1997 is estimated at \$43 per inmate.

Local Revenues: Revenues could increase under the bill's monetary penalty provision for those cases heard in the circuit courts, depending upon the number of convictions and fines imposed.

Local Expenditures: Expenditures could increase as a result of the bill's incarceration penalty depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed. Counties pay the full cost of incarceration for people in their facilities for the first 90 days of the sentence, plus part of the per diem cost after 90 days. Per diem operating costs of local detention facilities are expected to range from \$19 to \$96 per inmate in fiscal 1997.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Correction), Department of State Police, Department of Fiscal Services

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