

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 704 (Prince George's County and Montgomery County Delegations)
Ways and Means Referred to Select Bi-County

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - Front Foot Benefit Charges -
Collection
PG/MC 36-96**

This amended bill changes the way the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) pays Montgomery and Prince George's counties for services performed by the county treasurers in collecting WSSC's front foot benefit charges. Under current law, WSSC must pay an amount each month that the treasurer and the WSSC agree on as reasonable. If there is a disagreement, the County Executive must determine the amount. Under the bill, the WSSC must make an annual payment for the services provided by the treasurers. The WSSC has the discretion to set the amounts, and must itemize the payments in its budget. In addition, the payments must be made by December 1 of each year.

The bill is effective July 1, 1996.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Indeterminate effect on Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and WSSC finances as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Effect: The WSSC currently pays Montgomery County \$6,500 to collect the front foot benefit charges when the county property taxes are collected each year. Prior to fiscal 1996, Prince George's County charged the WSSC \$35,000 for such service. For fiscal 1996, Prince George's County budgeted \$189,940.

Since the WSSC would set the amounts to be paid to the counties, the impact cannot be determined beforehand. The impact would depend upon the difference between the payments made under the existing arrangement and the payments resulting from the bill's provisions.

Information Source(s): Montgomery and Prince George's counties; Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission; Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 1996
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