

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 554 (Senator Pica)
(Baltimore City Administration)

Judicial Proceedings

**Baltimore City - Fires and Preventions -
State Fire Marshal and State Fire Prevention Commission**

This bill requires the Fire Marshal and the Fire Prevention Commission to assist Baltimore City in the investigation of the cause or origin of a fire. Current law requires these entities to enforce fire prevention regulations in the city.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential indeterminate increase in expenditures (see below). Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None. The State Fire Marshal does not anticipate charging Baltimore City for investigative assistance. This service is currently provided to all other jurisdictions in the State upon request.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The State Fire Marshal advises that adding Baltimore City to the jurisdictions where assistance in investigations is provided can be accommodated with their existing budgeted resources.

However, given the agency's current workload and the increased turnover in fiscal 1997, it is already unclear that the Fire Marshal can perform all required inspections, without being burdened by any additional responsibilities. In addition, this bill has the potential

to increase State costs by an indeterminate amount because of the size, type, and concentration of properties in the city and the city may wish to transfer more of the responsibility for investigations to the State.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 1996

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Analysis by: Guy Cherry

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710