

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 245 (Senator Hoffman)
Judicial Proceedings

Crimes - Unlawful Taking of a Motor Vehicle - Penalty

This bill increases the maximum incarceration penalty for the felony of taking a motor vehicle from 5 to 15 years.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Indeterminate increase in general fund expenditures due to the bill's penalty provision. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures could increase as a result of the bill's incarceration penalty due to people being committed to a Division of Correction (DOC) facility for longer periods of time, depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed.

In fiscal 1997 the average monthly cost per inmate is estimated at \$1,400. Under the bill's maximum incarceration penalty, the average time served would increase from 30 to 60 months (50% of the maximum sentence with the possibility of parole), or by 30 months. Thus, State costs could increase by \$42,000 ($\$1,400 \times 30$) for each person imprisoned under the bill.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of

Correction), Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 5, 1996

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Analysis by: Lori Caldwell-Valentine

Reviewed by: Robert C. Bates

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710