

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 456 (Senator Stone, et al.) (Committee to Revise Article 27)
Judicial Proceedings

Crime Victims and Witnesses - Nonsubstantive Reorganization of Laws

This bill reorganizes and consolidates statutes regarding crime victims and witnesses in Article 27 of the Maryland Code. The bill also permits a judge to prohibit the release of the address or telephone number of a crime witness or victim at the request of a witness and eliminates the right of a defendant to prohibit a person other than the attorneys and equipment technicians from being in the room with a child who is testifying via closed-circuit television in a child abuse case.

The bill contains contingency language to preserve the reorganization in the event revision of the assault laws embodied in SB 618/HB 749 is enacted or in case a sunset provision in Chapter 396 of 1995 imposing a \$3 charge on minor traffic offenses takes effect.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The changes in this bill are mainly stylistic in nature. Other provisions are procedural in nature and will not affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None. The changes in this bill are mainly stylistic in nature. Other provisions are procedural in nature and will not affect governmental finances.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Office of the Secretary, Division of Parole and Probation, Maryland Parole Commission); Department of Legislative Reference; Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 23, 1996

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