

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1277 (Delegate McKee, et al.)
Judiciary

Confiscated Handguns - Offer for Sale Before Disposition

This bill mandates that local law enforcement agencies either retain for official use or offer for sale to gun dealers guns or related equipment worth more than \$50 that are confiscated under Maryland gun laws. If the guns are offered for sale, they will be kept available for sale for one year, after which time the law enforcement agency can dispose of them. Revenue from gun sales would go to the State's general fund.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund revenues could increase by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures are not affected.

Local Effect: Revenues could decrease by an indeterminate amount and expenditures could be affected as described below.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: To the extent that local law enforcement agencies sell guns to gun dealers, general fund revenues would increase. The amount of revenue cannot be reliably estimated at this time. It is not clear to what extent this bill would apply to the State Police. If it covers all State Police operations, general fund revenue could increase by an estimated \$33,000 annually.

Local Revenues: Local revenues would decrease for those jurisdictions that currently sell confiscated guns as the local agency would have to send the money to the State.

Local Expenditures: There could be minimal administrative costs for storage and tracking of guns valued at more than \$50. This would primarily affect the jurisdictions that currently destroy guns, such as Baltimore City, Prince George's County, and Talbot County. Any such increase would be at least partially offset by reductions in disposal costs.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Calvert County; Annapolis, Bowie, and Thurmont; Department of State Police; Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 11, 1996

ncs

Analysis by: Robert C. Bates

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710