

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 278 (Chairman, Appropriations Committee)
(Departmental - Juvenile Justice)

Appropriations

Referred to Budget and Taxation

Juvenile Justice Facilities Capital Program - Eligibility for Grants

This departmental bill removes the \$600,000 cap for any single grant under the Juvenile Justice Facilities Capital Program. It also broadens the definition of juvenile programs eligible to receive grants to any facility serving youths placed by the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Under current law, only those programs licensed by DJJ are eligible for the bond program. The bill expands access to any program providing residential services to youths placed by the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Juvenile Justice Facilities Capital Program bond expenditures could increase by an indeterminate but significant amount. No direct effect on operating expenditures or revenues.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Juvenile Justice has determined that this bill has minimal or no economic impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: The bill's requirements could encourage development of new programs serving juvenile justice youths and diverting out-of-state placements. Chapter 264 of 1992 set a goal of returning all children from out-of-state facilities by July 1, 1997. The fiscal 1996 appropriation for the Juvenile Justice Facilities Capital Program includes \$634,000 for two projects: (1) the Baptist Home for Children and Families dormitory (total cost = \$1.1 million, State funding = \$562,000); and (2) the Tri-County Youth Services Bureau (total cost = \$144,000; State funding = \$72,000).

State Expenditures: Since the bill removes the \$600,000 cap for any single grant, the only restriction on grant amounts is the current law stipulation that a grant may not exceed 50% of the cost of eligible work remaining unpaid after all grants have been applied. The bill could increase Juvenile Justice Facilities Capital Program bond expenditures by an indeterminate but significant amount.

The proposed fiscal 1997 budget for the Juvenile Justice Facilities Capital Program includes \$600,000 for one project: the Harford Boys and Girls Club (total cost = \$1.3 million, State funding = \$600,000).

Information Source(s): Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 19, 1996
ncs Revised - Small Business Impact Statement Received
- April 1, 1996

Analysis by: Sue Friedlander
Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 841-3710
(301) 858-3710