

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 758 (Delegate Cryor)
Judiciary

Appointment of Counsel - Adoption and Guardianship Proceedings

This bill requires the appointment of counsel for an individual who is the subject of a termination of parental rights proceeding. Current law requires an appointment of counsel only if the termination is involuntary.

In addition, the bill provides that representation by appointed counsel must continue until a final judgment of adoption is entered.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Local departments of social services already assume responsibility for legal representation during applicable proceedings. Therefore, this bill codifies existing practice.

Local Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Human Resources, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 20, 1996

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