

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1368 (Delegate Montague)
Judiciary

Family Law - Shared Parenting

This bill provides that in a contested custody proceeding a court may determine “shared parenting” arrangements in addition to sole and joint custody. The bill specifies certain criteria the court may consider in determining the parenting arrangement. A court must provide that each parent participate, to some degree, in decision making in at least some area of the child’s life, unless the court finds that the best interest of the child is not served. The bill is applied prospectively.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Indeterminate. Authorizing a court to determine the “shared parenting” arrangement of a child could increase the current backlog of circuit court cases, and could possibly require additional court resources (i.e., support staff and facilities). Any such impact depends upon the number and complexity of cases and cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 7, 1996
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