

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 379 (Delegate C. Davis)
Judiciary

Crimes of Violence - Burglary and Daytime Housebreaking - Exceptions

This bill allows defendants sentenced under the mandatory minimum sentence for burglary or daytime housebreaking before October 1, 1994 to petition the sentencing court for a reduction in sentence. The court is provided with the discretion to grant such requests. The bill also provides that such defendants are eligible for parole.

These provisions do not apply to defendants who were convicted of an offense other than burglary or daytime housebreaking and serving a sentence under the mandatory minimum.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential indeterminate decrease in general fund expenditures. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: By allowing courts to reduce the mandatory minimum sentences of specific offenders, general fund expenditures could potentially decrease as a result of reduced sentences in Division of Correction (DOC) facilities. The extent of sentence reductions cannot be reliably estimated at this time, however, any reduction in time served would have a potential fiscal impact as it costs DOC approximately \$200 per month for one inmate's food, medical care, and other expenses.

Although this bill could require several hundred sentence reviews within the next year or two, it is unlikely to require additional resources for the circuit courts.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Correction), Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 1996

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