

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 649 (Delegate Bozman, et al.)
Commerce and Government Matters

Worcester County - State's Attorney - Salary and Private Practice Restriction

This bill requires the Worcester County State's Attorney to serve full-time and cease any private practice after December 31, 1998. The bill also establishes the salary of the State's Attorney at 90% of the salary of a District Court judge. The county commissioners, however, may set the salary at a higher level by an ordinance enacted prior to the election filing deadline for the next term of office. The salary provision does not apply to the State's Attorney in office on July 1, 1996.

Before the bill becomes effective, it must be submitted to a referendum of the qualified voters of Worcester County at the November 1996 general election for passage or rejection.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Worcester County expenditures could increase by an indeterminate amount beginning in FY 1999. Revenues would not be affected.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Expenditures: Currently, the Worcester County State's Attorney receives a salary of \$45,000 and partial benefits. The next term of office begins in fiscal 1999. Under the bill, the salary would be at least equal to 90% of the salary of a judge of the District Court in fiscal 1999. Beginning in fiscal 1999, county expenditures would increase depending upon the salary level of a District Court judge, which cannot be reliably estimated at this time. However, based on the current salary of a District Court Judge (\$86,500), expenditures would increase by \$32,850 plus fringe benefits.

In addition, the county could conduct the referendum at the November 1996 general election with existing resources.

Information Source(s): Worcester County, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 1996

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Analysis by: Thomas Himler

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710