

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 579 (Senator Ferguson)
Judicial Proceedings

Punitive Damages - Limitation

The bill prohibits the award of punitive damages from exceeding more than four times the amount of an award of compensatory damages except in specified circumstances. The bill also prohibits a jury from being informed of the limitation and requires the court to reduce the amount of the award to conform to the limitation if the jury award exceeds the limitation.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The limitation would not directly affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 19, 1996

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