

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 560 (Delegate Taylor, *et al.*)
Appropriations

**Forest and Park Rangers - Salary, Step, and Grade Increases -
In Relationship to Natural Resources Police**

This bill provides that whenever Natural Resources Police Officers receive a salary increase or a grade or step increase, Forest and Park Rangers must receive a salary increase of the same percentage or an equal grade or step increase.

This bill is effective July 1, 1997.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The Governor's proposed FY 1998 budget includes \$959,600 in general and special funds for a 10% salary increase for Forest and Park Rangers, which is not contingent upon enactment of this bill. Potential significant increase in State expenditures in future years. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None. This bill would not directly impact small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The Governor's proposed fiscal 1998 budget includes a salary increase of \$959,600 for Forest and Park Rangers (this includes fringe benefit costs). This budget also includes a 10% increase in salary for Natural Resources Police Officers (\$1.05 million). The Natural Resources Police are currently on the same salary scale as the State Police, who also are budgeted to receive a 10% increase in salary.

Should the Forest and Park Rangers receive this 10% raise for fiscal 1998, then their base

total salary would be approximately \$10.6 million. For every 1% increase in their salaries, State expenditures would increase by \$106,000. Each time a raise is given, the base salary figure would increase commensurately; thus, the next raise received would be more expensive for each 1% increase.

Information Source(s): Department of Natural Resources, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 11, 1997

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