

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 180 (Senator Ferguson)
Judicial Proceedings

Elected Officials - Conviction of Controlled Dangerous Substance Offenses

This bill proposes a constitutional amendment to require that any elected official of the State, a county, or a municipality who is convicted of a crime involving a controlled dangerous substance be suspended from office. If the conviction is overturned or reversed, the official must be reinstated for the remainder of the term of office.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal, as discussed below.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The Maryland Constitution requires that proposed amendments to the Constitution be publicized in at least two newspapers in each county, if available, and in at least three newspapers in Baltimore City once a week for four weeks immediately preceding a general election. The costs associated with these requirements are borne by the State. It is anticipated that the budget of the State Administrative Board of Election Laws for fiscal 1999 will contain funding for publishing constitutional amendments for the 1998 general election.

Local Expenditures: If approved by the General Assembly, this constitutional amendment will be submitted to the voters at the 1998 general election. It should not require additional costs for the county elections boards to administer the election.

Information Source(s): Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 31, 1997

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