

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 21 (Senator Sfikas)
Judicial Proceedings

Handguns - Use in the Commission of a Felony or Crime of Violence - Mandatory Sentence

This bill provides that a person convicted for a second or subsequent time of using a handgun in the commission of a felony or a crime of violence may not be eligible for parole and must serve the full five-year minimum sentence.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal effect on State expenditures as discussed below. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

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

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: Under current law, an individual convicted of a first offense is not eligible for parole for the first five years of the sentence. Absent information to the contrary, it is assumed that this same standard is generally applied to those convicted of second or subsequent offenses. Therefore, this bill should not increase the length of incarceration for most offenders, and thus would not affect incarceration expenditures. However, to the extent that an individual instance of sentencing could be affected, State costs could minimally increase.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of

Correction, Parole Commission); Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 7, 1997

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