

Department of Fiscal Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 382 (Delegate Harkins, *et al.*)  
Judiciary

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**Domestic Violence - Civil Protective Orders**

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This bill requires the Maryland Interagency Law Enforcement System (MILES) to “segregate” civil protective orders from the other arrest information and civil child support warrants in the system. Persons, including law enforcement officers, who relay information relating to an individual in the system must clearly communicate specified information concerning such orders.

The bill prohibits a judge from including conditions in protective orders not specified in law. By July 1, 1997, the Court of Appeals Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure must recommend forms for inclusion in the Maryland Rules concerning a protective order in a domestic violence case.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Potential general fund expenditure increase of \$25,000 to \$300,000 in FY 1998 only as discussed below. Revenues would not be affected.

**Local Effect:** None.

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

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Expenditures:** This bill would require some programming alterations related to MILES. The Data Services Division of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services reports that the reprogramming costs for this bill could range from \$25,000 up to \$300,000, or more, if the information must be segregated for actual use by the bill’s October 1, 1997 effective date. The division believes that these costs would depend largely on how the term “segregate” is technically interpreted for reprogramming modules.

The division also reports that a redesign of the warrant system within MILES is currently underway and is due for completion by November 1997. When completed this reprogramming project would obviate the need for any significant additional costs resulting from this bill. However, if the requirements of this bill include having segregated information for actual use by the bill's effective date, a separate redesign project (with costs as shown above) would have to be executed.

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**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Data Services Division), Department of State Police, Department of Human Resources, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 7, 1997  
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