

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 173 (Senators Stone and Miller)
(Task Force to Examine Maryland's Crime Victims' Rights Laws)
Judicial Proceedings

Victims' Rights Act of 1997

This bill expands the scope of current provisions relating to victims of crimes. The bill expands victims' rights laws to include juvenile proceedings.

The bill requires additional specified notifications to be made relating to parole and mandatory supervision. Victims are allowed to request that offenders be prohibited from having contact with the victim as a condition of release or supervision. Specified factors must be considered in parole release agreements.

In addition, the bill provides that evidence relating to a victim's prior sexual conduct is not admissible in any prosecution for attempted rape or attempted first or second degree sexual offense.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: To the extent that victim notification requirements increase postage and printing costs of various agencies beyond their existing budgeted resources, general fund expenditures could increase. Any such increase is expected to be minimal. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increases in postage and printing relating to notification requirements.

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

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Parole Commission), Office of the Public Defender, Department of Human Resources, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 4, 1997

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