

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 194 (Chairman, Judiciary Committee)
(Departmental - Public Safety and Correctional Services)
Judiciary

Parole - Mandatory Supervision

This departmental bill alters the definition of “mandatory supervision” so that it applies to offenders (sentenced after July 1, 1970) serving a sentence of more than 12 months in a Division of Correction facility.

The bill is effective June 1, 1997, and applies to persons in the custody of the Division of Correction on or after that date.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The minimal decrease in the workload of the Division of Parole and Probation would not measurably affect the division’s finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: This bill corrects an omission in Chapter 59 of the Acts of 1991 that provided for the State takeover of the Baltimore City Jail (now the Baltimore City Detention Center). In all local jurisdictions, other than Baltimore City, persons sentenced for 12 months or less serve that sentence in a local detention center, and are not subject to possible mandatory supervision and possible revocation of conditional release. This bill provides that the sentence of an inmate in Baltimore City serving a term of less than 12 months will end under

the same conditions of inmates with similar sentences in other local jurisdictions.

The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services reports that in Baltimore City the Division of Parole and Probation currently has 13,552 active cases assigned to 143 agents. Less than 4% (512) are mandatory supervision cases involving inmates sentenced to 12 months or less, meaning that under this bill the mandatory supervision caseload of the division in Baltimore City would decrease by about 4%. The decrease would not measurably affect the division's operations or finances.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Parole and Probation), Department of Fiscal Services

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