

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 105 (Calvert County Delegation)
Judiciary

Calvert County - Restitution - Domestic Abusers

This bill provides that in Calvert County a court may require persons convicted of specified crimes involving a spouse or child to make restitution to a governmental entity for expenses incurred in providing food and shelter to the spouse or child.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal. Since the State provides mostly counseling and support services to abused spouses and their children in Calvert County, the bill would not significantly affect State finances.

Local Effect: Calvert County revenues could increase by an indeterminate but potentially significant amount as discussed below. No effect on expenditures.

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

Fiscal Analysis

Local Revenues: Calvert County provides funds to the Abused Persons/Safe Harbor Shelter, a shelter for victims of abuse. In fiscal 1997 the county budgeted approximately \$151,300 in county funds to the shelter. Between July 1993 and November 1996, the shelter housed almost 300 different women and children. On average, the shelter houses 22 residents per month. If a court orders a person convicted of spouse abuse or child abuse to make restitution, the county could be reimbursed for the costs of food and shelter. The actual reimbursement would depend upon the number of times a court orders such payments and the length of stay in the shelter by the abused persons.

Information Source(s): Calvert County, Department of Human Resources, Department of

Fiscal Services

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