

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 896 (Montgomery County and Prince George's County Delegations)
Commerce and Government Matters

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - Charitable Institutions -
Water and Sewer Usage
MC/PG 10-97

This bill requires the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) to provide up to 25 gallons of free water and sewer services per day for each client served at a nonprofit day program facility for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: WSSC revenues could decrease by an estimated \$95,000 annually beginning in FY 1998. Expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal impact on small businesses as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Revenues: WSSC already provides certain charitable institutions with free water and sewer services at an annual cost of \$480,000. This legislation would expand this practice to include day program facilities serving individuals with developmental disabilities. There are approximately 5,900 such individuals in day programs statewide. Assuming 1,800 placements are within Montgomery and Prince George's counties, WSSC revenues could decrease by approximately \$95,000 annually. This is based on the following:

- billing rate of \$8.46 per thousand gallons;
- 250 workdays per year; and
- Montgomery and Prince George's counties' share of day placements is based on the counties' share of the State population.

Small Business Effect: This bill would reduce utility costs (water and sewer) for nonprofit organizations supplying day program facilities for individuals with developmental disabilities by \$53 per client per year. It is estimated that 1,800 clients are served in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. The number of these clients that are served by nonprofit organizations employing less than 50 people is unknown; hence, any reduction in nonprofit organization costs cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

Information Source(s): Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Department of Fiscal Services

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