

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 836 (Senator Conway, *et al.*)
Judicial Proceedings

Baltimore City - Property Owners - Waiver of Rights

This bill authorizes the applicable enforcement agency in Baltimore City to enter onto any property that is abandoned or boarded up, or if a housing code violation exists on the property, to either demolish the property or to correct the housing code violation without issuing prior notice or obtaining a warrant for the entry if (1) a citation has already been issued to the property owner; and (2) the property owner has failed to respond to the citation within 30 days after the citation was issued. As under current law, the property owner is liable for the cost of the correction of the housing code violation or the cost of demolishing the property.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Indeterminate decrease in expenditures. Revenues would not be affected.

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

Fiscal Analysis

Local Expenditures: Currently, depending on the type of violation, Baltimore City's Department of Housing and Community Development is required to issue a series of notices to property owners before correcting the violation itself. It is estimated that there are 300-500 situations per year where the department performs the necessary work itself in order to correct a violation. To the extent that the required additional notices, such as certified mail notices and notices physically posted on the property, are unnecessary, there would be administrative savings for the department.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 1997

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