

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 257 (Delegates Dembrow and Palumbo)
Judiciary

Courts of Appeals - Name Change

This bill proposes a constitutional amendment to change the name of the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court and the name of the Court of Special Appeals to the Appellate Court.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal, as discussed below.

Local Effect: None.

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

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The Maryland Constitution requires that proposed amendments to the Constitution be publicized in at least two newspapers in each county, if available, and in at least three newspapers in Baltimore City once a week for four weeks immediately preceding a general election. The costs associated with these requirements are borne by the State. It is anticipated that the budget of the State Board of Elections for fiscal 1999 will contain funding for publishing constitutional amendments for the 1998 general election.

While the Judiciary would incur some incidental expenses related to the name changes, they would not be significant and could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Expenditures: If approved by the General Assembly, this constitutional amendment will be submitted to the voters at the 1998 general election. It should not require additional costs for the county election boards to administer the election.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of

Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 5, 1997

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