

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 1387 (Delegate Montague)  
Judiciary

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**Family Law - Joint Custody - Decision Making**

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This bill provides that a court, in a child custody proceeding, may award each parent of a child full or shared decision making authority with respect to major decisions for the child in separate areas. The areas include education, medical treatment, religious training, discipline, sports, and extracurricular activities. The bill also establishes that an award of joint custody may be full or shared and may specify particular areas or types of decision making to be shared.

The bill is applied prospectively.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill would not directly affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

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

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 13, 1997

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Analysis by: Lori Caldwell-Valentine  
Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:  
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst  
(410) 841-3710  
(301) 858-3710