

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 537 (Senator Ruben)
Judicial Proceedings

Juveniles - Confidentiality of Records

This bill modifies a confidentiality requirement pertaining to juvenile police records by allowing a law enforcement agency to include relevant information concerning an outstanding juvenile warrant in any law enforcement computer information system for the purpose of apprehending the juvenile named in the warrant.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential indeterminate expenditure increase as discussed below. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: Potential minimal expenditure increase as discussed below. Revenues would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: The bill would not directly affect small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The bill authorizes, but does not require, inclusion of juvenile warrant information in a law enforcement agency's computer information system. Juvenile warrants are issued by the circuit courts, except in Montgomery County where the District Court issues juvenile warrants. The Data Services Division in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) maintains the statewide automated warrants information system called the Maryland Interagency Law Enforcement System (MILES) to which the Department of State Police and local law enforcement agencies have access. However, MILES does not currently include juvenile warrant information. General fund expenditures could increase by an indeterminate moderate amount (under \$100,000) for modifications to MILES to accept juvenile warrant information. However, DPSCS has no plans in the

immediate future to include juvenile warrant information in its system. There could be additional State expenditures for data entry of juvenile warrant information. Data entry could presumably be done by DPSCS or the clerks of the court.

Local Expenditures: Juvenile warrants are issued by the circuit courts, except in Montgomery County where the District Court issues juvenile warrants. To the extent that a local law enforcement agency chooses to access juvenile warrant information, it could potentially incur additional expenditures in entering warrant data into the MILES system. The amount of any such expenditures cannot be reliably estimated at this time, but is assumed to be minimal.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Fiscal Services

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