

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1268 (Delegate Hixson, *et al.*)
Ways and Means

Public Libraries - Funding

This bill increases the mandatory funding for each county public library system that participates in the County-State Minimum Library Program from \$9.25 to \$10.25 for each county resident. The funding increase becomes applicable beginning in fiscal 1999.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures would increase by \$2.1 million beginning in FY 1999. Future year expenditures are adjusted for projected population changes. Revenues would not be affected.

(\$ in millions)	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002
GF Revenues	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
GF Expenditures	0	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3
Net Effect	\$0	(\$2.1)	(\$2.2)	(\$2.2)	(\$2.3)

Note: () - decrease; GF - general funds; FF - federal funds; SF - special funds

Local Effect: State aid to local governments would increase by \$2.1 million beginning in FY 1999.

Small Business Effect: None. Small businesses would not be directly affected.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The State provides 40% of the total cost of the Minimum Library Program. The State share of the total is divided among the counties according to their relative wealth, with no county receiving less than 20% of its minimum program. Three counties (Montgomery, Talbot, and Worcester) receive the minimum State share.

The Department of Fiscal Services advises that under this bill the State portion of the library program would increase from \$20.0 million to \$22.1 million in fiscal 1999, representing a \$2.1 million, or 11%, increase over current law. Future year expenditures total \$22.3 million in fiscal 2000 to \$22.8 million in fiscal 2002, reflecting a \$2.2 million and \$2.3 million respective increase over current law. Future year expenditure increases reflect projected State population increases.

Local Revenues: State aid to local governments would increase by \$2.1 million in fiscal 1999. For illustrative purposes, a county-by-county impact based on fiscal 1998 funding levels is illustrated in **Exhibit 1**.

Local Expenditures: Mandatory local library expenditures would not be affected in that county governments already contribute funding in excess of the local share of the \$10.25 program required under this bill.

Information Source(s): Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 1997
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