

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 241 (Delegates Morhaim and M. Burns)

Judiciary

**Drunk and Drugged Driving - Evidence - Statements by
Qualified Medical Persons and Toxicologist**

This bill provides that a certified statement by a qualified medical person who obtained the blood of a defendant charged with drunk or drugged driving is admissible as evidence without the presence or testimony of the qualified medical person. The bill repeals the requirement that the State notify the defendant in writing of the State's intent to use the certified statement in lieu of actual testimony. Further, a statement signed by the toxicologist saying that the blood test was performed in an approved laboratory is admissible as evidence without the presence or testimony of the toxicologist.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal decline in general fund expenditures due to decreased workloads, postage, and related administrative costs. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (District Court), Maryland State's Attorneys' Association, Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 16, 1998

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Analysis by: Jody J. Minnich

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710