

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 72 (Delegate Leonold. *et al.*)

Judiciary

Criminal Procedure - Restitution - Bomb Threats

This bill makes local boards of education eligible to receive court ordered restitution from an individual convicted of a destructive device violation. Under current law, only the State, a county, a municipal corporation, a bicounty agency, or a special taxing district may receive court ordered restitution.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential increase in revenues. Expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Effect: Local revenues could increase to the extent that restitution is paid for actual costs incurred in response to bomb incidents. According to the Anne Arundel County Public School System, to date schools have been evacuated 76 times in this school year: 40 times in high schools; 20 times in middle schools; and 16 times in elementary schools. Anne Arundel County police have made 30 arrests. The average cost per hour in lost staff time for these evacuations are: \$4,743 for high schools; \$2,426 for middle schools; and \$1,051 for elementary schools.

For illustrative purposes, it is assumed that each evacuation lasts for three hours. If 50% of those arrested are found guilty of a destructive device violation in the high schools and required to pay restitution, the Anne Arundel County Board of Education would be entitled to \$213,435. However, the amount of court ordered restitution actually collected depends, in part, on an offender's ability and willingness to make payments.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services, Maryland Association of Boards of Education, Anne Arundel County Police, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts)

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Analysis by: Hiram L. Burch, Jr.

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710