

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 102 (Senators Middlebrooks and Haines)

Judicial Proceedings

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**Handguns - Permits for Retired Law Enforcement Officers**

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This bill regulates the issue and renewal of handgun permits for retired law enforcement officers by: (1) specifying the qualifications to obtain the permit; (2) specifying restrictions on the permit; (3) authorizing an application fee to offset administrative costs; and (4) providing maximum criminal penalties of a \$1,000 fine and/or incarceration for one year for violating the provisions of the bill.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill could be implemented with existing resources. Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues and expenditures due to the bill's penalty provisions.

**Local Effect:** Potential minimal increase in revenues and expenditures due to the bill's penalty provisions.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Revenues:** Under current law there is no charge for a handgun permit for retired law enforcement officers. Under this bill, the Department of State Police advises that such permits would continue to be issued to retired officers without cost.

General fund revenues could increase under the bill's monetary penalty provisions for those cases heard in the District Court, depending upon the number of convictions and fines imposed.

**State Expenditures:** Persons serving a sentence of one year or less are sentenced to a local detention facility. The State reimburses counties for part of their per diem rate after a person

has served 90 days. State per diem reimbursements for fiscal 1999 are estimated to range from \$12 to \$42 per inmate depending upon the jurisdiction. Persons sentenced to such a term in Baltimore City are generally incarcerated in a Division of Correction (DOC) facility, with an average monthly cost estimated at \$1,500 for fiscal 1999. [The Baltimore City Detention Center (BCDC), a State operated facility, is used primarily for pretrial detentions. The per diem cost for BCDC in fiscal 1999 is estimated at \$43 per inmate.]

**Local Revenues:** Revenues could increase under the bill's monetary penalty provisions for those cases heard in the circuit courts, depending upon the number of convictions and fines imposed.

**Local Expenditures:** Expenditures could increase as a result of the bill's incarceration penalties depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed. Counties pay the full cost of incarceration for people in their facilities for the first 90 days of the sentence, plus part of the per diem cost after 90 days. Per diem operating costs of local detention facilities are expected to range from \$23 to \$83 per inmate in fiscal 1999.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of State Police, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 16, 1998

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