

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 433 (Delegate Conway, *et al.*)

Appropriations

Volunteer Firefighters and Rescue Squad Personnel - Death Benefits

This bill alters provisions relating to the Board of Trustees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association and its obligation, as specified, to pay death benefits of at least \$2,000 if a volunteer fireman or an individual serving on a volunteer rescue squad dies. The bill extends coverage to active participation in advanced life support and specified work for a volunteer advanced life support unit. The bill also provides that entitlement to these death benefits is regardless of the district in which the decedent died or whether the decedent died in Maryland, an adjacent state, or Washington, D.C. In addition, the bill adds the decedent's grandparents to the list of eligible beneficiaries, eliminates a requirement that a relative be dependent upon the deceased in order to receive the benefit, and prioritizes eligible beneficiaries.

The bill is effective July 1, 1998.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal. The annual grant from the Board of Public Works to the Board of Trustees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association for purposes that include these death benefits will not be directly affected by the provisions of this bill. The FY 1999 budget allowance for this annual grant is \$791,244.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 1998
Inc Revised - House Third Reader - April 1, 1998
Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 28, 1998

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