

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 543 (Delegate Dewberrv. *et al.*)

Judiciary

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**Crimes - Impersonating a Federal Police Officer**

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This bill expands a prohibition against impersonating a police officer by making the prohibition applicable to impersonating a federal police officer. Violators of this provision are guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to current law maximum penalties of a fine of \$100 and/or imprisonment for six months.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues and expenditures due to the bill's application of current law penalty provisions.

**Local Effect:** Potential minimal increase in revenues and expenditures due to the bill's application of current law incarceration penalty provision.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Revenues:** General fund revenues could increase under the bill's monetary penalty provision since these cases would be likely to be heard in the District Court. The magnitude of any such increase would depend upon the number of convictions and fines imposed.

**State Expenditures:** General fund expenditures could increase as a result of the bill's incarceration penalty due to increased payments to counties for reimbursement of inmate costs, depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed.

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 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 Expenditures:** Expenditures could increase as a result of the bill's incarceration penalty depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed. Counties pay the full cost of incarceration 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 Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Correction), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 17, 1998  
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