

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 993 (Delegate Petzold)

Ways and Means

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**Education - Students with Disabilities - Review of Services and Placement Decisions  
of the Office of Administrative Hearings**

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This bill enables a surrogate parent of a student with disabilities to make a written request to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for a review of educational decisions pertaining to the disabled student. Currently, only a parent, guardian, or public agency can file a review request. In addition, the bill requires these requests to be filed within 90 days from the time the public agency makes its decision. The bill also reduces the time period following the final review decision of OAH from 180 to 90 days by which a party to the hearing can file a civil action with the federal or circuit courts. This bill takes effect July 1, 1998.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. Any additional workload for OAH could be handled with existing resources. Other provisions of the bill are procedural in nature and would not directly affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Information Source(s):** Office of Administrative Hearings, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Maryland Association of Boards of Education

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 23, 1998

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