

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1054 (Delegate Gettv. *et al.*)

Judiciary

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**Carroll County - Inmates - Reimbursement**

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This bill authorizes the sheriff of Carroll County to impose a fee on detention center inmates to cover the costs of their housing and food. The bill also authorizes the sheriff to exempt an inmate from paying the fee if the sheriff determines the inmate is not financially able to pay.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Local revenues are estimated to increase by approximately \$106,000 for FY 1999 annually. Expenditures would not be affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Local Revenues:** Carroll County advises that as a result of the authorization provided under this bill, the sheriff anticipates charging \$1 per meal per inmate. This would result in a charge of \$3 per day for each inmate, excluding those on work release and indigent inmates. At \$3 per day, the annualized cost recovery revenue for one inmate would be \$1,095. Based on current average daily inmate populations at the detention center, it is estimated that this bill would generate \$106,215 for fiscal 1999 after accounting for inmates who are not able to pay.

Out-year estimates would depend on changes in average daily population, the number of inmates on work release, and levels of inmate indigency. It is assumed, however, that revenue accrued under this authorization will remain relatively constant for the near future.

Since the county did not include any estimates related directly to inmate housing, it is assumed that the \$3 per day charge anticipated by the sheriff is intended to be the only cost recovery fee to be put into place under the bill's authorization.

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**Information Source(s):** Carroll County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 25, 1998

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