

Department of Legislative Services  
 Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 488 (Delegate Pendergrass. *et al.*)

Judiciary

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**Parent - Child Immunity - Motor Vehicle Cases - Abrogation**

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This bill abrogates the common law doctrine of parent-child immunity as it applies to actions for wrongful death, personal injury, or property damage arising from the operation of a motor vehicle. Under current law, lawsuits between parents and their minor children for personal torts are generally prohibited.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill would not directly affect governmental finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Small Business Effect:** As a result of the bill, small insurance businesses could be required to make payment in connection with claims between minor children and their parents arising out of automobile accidents.

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**Information Source(s):** Maryland Insurance Administration, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 3, 1998

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