

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 818 (Prince George’s County and Montgomery County Delegations)
Commerce and Government Matters

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - Eminent Domain - Elimination of
Quick Take Authority in Prince George’s County
PG/MC 32-98**

This bill prohibits the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) from using “quick take authority” to acquire property in Prince George’s County.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential increase in WSSC expenditures. Revenues would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Expenditures: Current law permits the WSSC, and other localities, to immediately take property in cases involving utility projects. According to the WSSC, the “quick take” provision is used only in a few cases involving property owners who refuse to negotiate with the commission, thus delaying public utility projects. Pursuant to this legislation, the WSSC would have to use the regular condemnation process which is more lengthy than the “quick take” process. This could result in additional legal and land acquisition costs.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 16, 1998

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