

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 259 (The Speaker) (Judiciary)

Judiciary

Judgeships - District Court - Baltimore City

This bill creates a new District Court judgeship in District 1 (Baltimore City), effective July 1, 1998.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures will increase by \$151,300 in FY 1999, which reflects a 90-day start-up delay. Out-year expenditures reflect annualization, inflation, and salary increases. Potential acceleration of receipt of general fund revenues.

(in dollars)	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
GF Revenues	--	--	--	--	--
GF Expenditures	\$151,300	\$202,100	\$204,300	\$206,500	\$208,800
Net Effect	(\$151,300)	(\$202,100)	(\$204,300)	(\$206,500)	(\$208,800)

Note: () - decrease; GF - general funds; FF - federal funds; SF - special funds

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: The timing of the receipt of general fund revenues could accelerate to the extent that the presence of the new judge increases the pace at which the District Court's workload proceeds. If cases proceed more quickly, the court could receive fees, costs, and fines imposed in cases sooner than those revenues would otherwise be received.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures would increase by an estimated \$151,300

in fiscal 1999, which reflects a 90-day start-up delay from the bill's July 1, 1998 effective date. This estimate includes combined salaries of \$126,729 for the additional Judge, a Clerk, and a Bailiff; fringe benefits; and supplies. It is assumed that sufficient courtroom space, office space, and office equipment exists for the new judge and staff.

District Court Judge salary		\$66,900
	Fringe benefits	\$44,696
Clerk salary		\$15,302
	Fringe benefits	\$5,826
Bailiff salary		\$12,845
	Fringe benefits	\$5,409
Supplies		<u>\$360</u>
Total FY 1999 State Expenditures		\$151,338

Future year expenditures reflect 3.5% annual salary increases and 3% employee turnover for the non-judicial positions, and 1% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses. Judicial salary increases (including potential cost-of-living increases) have not been included because they are determined by the Judicial Compensation Commission and the General Assembly. This estimate is based on a current salary of \$89,200 per year for District Court Associate Judges.

It should be noted that a resolution has been introduced on behalf of the Judicial Compensation Commission (SJ2/HJ2) that would increase the salary of District Court Associate Judges by 12.64% in fiscal 1999.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (District Court of Maryland), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 16, 1998

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