

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 909 (Delegates Barve and Exum)

Appropriations

Washington Suburban Transit District - Debt Service Grants

This bill requires the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) to provide annual grants to the Washington Suburban Transit District, for Montgomery and Prince George's counties, equal to 100% of Maryland's share of the net debt service requirements on bonds issued by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). The bill is effective July 1, 1998.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund expenditures would increase by \$2.4 million annually beginning in FY 1999. Revenues would not be affected.

(in millions)	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
SF Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SF Expenditures	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
Net Effect	(\$2.4)	(\$2.4)	(\$2.4)	(\$2.4)	(\$2.4)

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

Local Effect: Montgomery and Prince George's counties' expenditures would each decrease by an estimated \$1.2 million annually.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: Under current law MDOT is required to make annual grants equal to 75% of the debt service allocated to Montgomery and Prince George's counties to retire revenue bonds issued to finance construction of the Metrorail system. The proposed fiscal

1999 budget includes an allowance of \$7.3 million for such debt service payments. Thus, increasing the State's share of the debt service to 100% would increase Transportation Trust Fund expenditures by \$2.4 million in fiscal 1999. Assuming that debt levels are not increased, such payments are assumed to remain constant in the out-years through fiscal 2014.

Local Expenditures: Montgomery and Prince George's counties' annual expenditures for WMATA debt service would be reduced by \$1.2 million each as the State would pay the full amount of debt service.

Information Source(s): Department of Transportation (Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 9, 1998
Inc

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