Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1399

(Delegates Conway and Stup)

Judiciary

State Fire Marshal - Full-Time Investigative and Inspection Assistants - Powers of Arrest

This bill authorizes the State Fire Marshal and full-time investigative and inspection assistants of the Office of the State Fire Marshal to make warrantless arrests, conduct investigations, and enforce laws without jurisdictional limitations under specified circumstances. The bill also makes the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights applicable to the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal. The necessary training for personnel of the Office of the Fire Marshal can be handled with the existing budgeted resources of the Department of State Police. Any additional arrests, prosecutions, convictions, and incarcerations that result from this bill are not expected to significantly affect State finances or operations. Expanding coverage of the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights is not expected to materially affect governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: Minimal. Any additional arrests, prosecutions, convictions, and incarcerations that result from this bill are not expected to significantly affect local finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 19, 1998

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