

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

Senate Bill 529 (Senator Collins - Baltimore County Administration and  
Senator Ruben - Montgomery County Administration)

Judicial Proceedings

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**Child Abuse or Neglect - Disclosure of Information**

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This bill authorizes the director of a local department of social services or the Secretary of Human Resources to disclose specified information concerning child abuse or neglect if the following conditions are met: (1) the director or the Secretary determines that disclosure is not contrary to the best interests of the child, the child's siblings, or other children in the household or family; (2) the alleged abuser or neglector has been charged with a crime related to a report of child abuse or neglect; and (3) the child named in a report of abuse or neglect has died or suffered a serious physical injury. It requires that before disclosing the information, the director or the Secretary must consult with each other and the primary law enforcement agency. The Secretary must develop a form for disclosure of the information.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Human Resources, Office of the Public Defender, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 18, 1998  
lc Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 25, 1998

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