

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Revised

Senate Bill 629 (Senator McCabe)

Judicial Proceedings

At-Risk Populations - Placement and Policy Study

This bill requires the Departments of Health and Mental Hygiene, Human Resources, Education, and Juvenile Justice to jointly conduct a study on the placement of at-risk youth and adults in State facilities or in residential facilities. The bill specifies that a final report on the study must be submitted to the General Assembly by September 30, 1999.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential significant increase in general fund expenditures. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: It appears that this could be a major study, requiring engagement of the services of a consultant to design and conduct the study and prepare the required report. Past experience with similar studies indicates that the annual costs for such a consultant could be as much as \$360,000. However, the Child Welfare League of America recently performed an assessment of child welfare programs for the Department of Human Resources. Perhaps that assessment could be incorporated into the study required by this bill to avoid duplication of effort and expense.

Small Business Effect: A small consulting company could benefit if it is engaged to conduct this study and prepare the report.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Human Resources, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 19, 1998
ncs Revised - Updated Information - February 23, 1998

Analysis by: Claire E. Rooney
Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 841-3710
(301) 858-3710