

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 700 (Delegate J. Kelly, *et al.*)

Judiciary

Crime of Violence - Solicitation to Commit Murder

This bill makes the common-law offense of solicitation to commit murder a crime of violence for the purpose of sentencing and parole.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal. This bill could result in more persons being required to serve 50%, rather than 25%, of their incarceration terms before being eligible for parole. In addition, persons convicted of violent crimes are subject to mandatory minimum sentencing provisions after a third conviction. However, since only four persons have been convicted of solicitation to commit murder since 1995, this bill is not expected to significantly affect State expenditures for the Division of Correction (DOC) or the Division of Parole and Probation.

In any event, the average total cost per inmate, including overhead, is estimated at \$1,600 per month. The average variable cost of housing a new DOC inmate (food, medical care, etc.), excluding overhead, is \$275 per month.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Correction, Division of Parole and Probation), Office of the Public Defender, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 24, 1999

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