

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1172 (Delegate Pendergrass)

Judiciary

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Special Police Officers - Authorized Powers

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This bill authorizes local governments or specified transporting entities of law enforcement agencies to apply for the commissioning of special police officers to maintain custody of prisoners. The bill specifies the powers of such officers to be: (1) maintaining the custody of a prisoner in the custody of a law enforcement agency; (2) managing a prisoner in the custody of a law enforcement agency's booking facility; and (3) transporting a prisoner in the custody of a law enforcement agency to commitment to a correctional facility. The bill prohibits special police officers from having powers of arrest or from having the power or authority to perform detective duties. The bill also provides for certain liabilities applicable to a special police officer and a requesting authority.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. It is assumed that any training needs for special police officers under the provisions of this bill could be accommodated with the existing cost recovery mechanisms of the Police Training Commission.

**Local Effect:** None. It is assumed that any local government or law enforcement agency applying for the commissioning of special police officers under the provisions of this bill would only do so when budget resources permit.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Information Source(s):** Office of the Secretary of State; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Police and Correctional Training Commissions); Caroline, Howard, and Prince George's counties; City of College Park; City of Rockville; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 18, 1999

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