

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 12 (Senator Green)

Judicial Proceedings

Criminal Procedure - Service of Process

This bill expands the locations within which designated employees of local detention centers may serve criminal process. Under current law, an administrator of a local detention center may designate employees to serve criminal summonses, warrants, and charging documents within the detention center. The bill adds any police facility, central or regional booking site, and any other area that is staffed and controlled by employees of the local detention center as locations within which designated employees can serve process.

The bill takes effect June 1, 1999.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: Efficiency savings for local law enforcement agencies. No effect on revenues.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Effect: Local corrections employees are used at booking sites, other police facilities, and occasionally medical facilities in addition to detention centers. These workers are local government employees, except in the case of Baltimore City Detention Center, where the employees are paid by the State. This bill would allow corrections employees to serve court documents in all facilities in which they work, eliminating the need to take police officers away from their other duties to perform this function. The number of court documents to be served in outlying facilities is not expected to be large. This bill is not expected to result in a

reduction in funding for law enforcement personnel, but there would be a more efficient use of existing personnel.

Any additional workload and/or training for corrections employees could be handled with existing resources.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Pretrial Detention and Services); Garrett, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties; Department of Legislative Services

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dmm/jr

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