

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 112 (Senator Jacobs. *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Harford County - Sheriff - Sale of Property - Notice

This bill decreases from 1 year to 90 days the minimum time period that the Harford County Sheriff must possess abandoned, confiscated, or recovered property in order to sell the property. In addition, the bill requires notice of the sale of property in all subdivisions to be given by certified mail by deleting a reference in current law to registered mail as an alternate method of sending notice.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential minimal revenue increase in FY 2000 for Harford County. Potential minimal decrease in annual expenditures for counties that currently use registered mail.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Revenues: Assuming the Harford County Sheriff begins selling property in a shortened time frame, county revenues could increase in fiscal 2000 only. Harford County advises that any increase in revenues would be minimal. In addition, county expenditures could decrease by approximately \$2,000 annually because the sheriff's office would no longer need to lease space to store confiscated, abandoned, or recovered property. Expenditures could decrease by a minimal amount for counties that currently use registered mail for notice of the sale of property. The U.S. Postal Service currently charges a minimum of \$6.00 for registered mail and \$1.40 for certified mail. Based on a limited survey by the Department of Legislative Services it is assumed that most counties currently use certified

mail to provide notice of the sale of property.

Information Source(s): Harford County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 2, 1999
ncs/jr Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 29, 1999

Analysis by: Thomas P. Hickey

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510