

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 223 (Senator Baker. *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

**Offenses Involving Destructive Devices - Penalties - Suspension of Driving Privileges
and Parental Restitution**

This bill provides that if a child under 18 years old is convicted of a crime or found to have committed a delinquent act involving a destructive device, the court may order the child, the child's parent, or both to pay restitution. Under current law, only the child may be ordered to pay restitution. The court may also order the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to suspend the child's driving privilege for a period not to exceed:

- for a first offense, 6 months; and
- for a second or subsequent offense, 1 year or until the child is 21 years old, whichever is longer.

Offenses involving destructive devices include the manufacture, use, or possession of an explosive or mock explosive, and the making of a bomb threat.

The bill takes effect July 1, 1999.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal increase in revenues. Expenditures would not be affected.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in revenues. Expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: In fiscal 1998 approximately 34 youths were adjudicated delinquent for offenses involving destructive devices. The number of persons under the age of 18 who are annually found guilty in adult court of offenses involving destructive devices is not readily available, but is believed to be minimal. It is therefore believed that the MVA could handle any additional work associated with license suspensions resulting from the bill within existing budgeted resources.

Revenues could increase to the extent that restitution is received by State agencies from parents pursuant to the bill. The precise amount of any such revenues cannot be reliably estimated at this time, but is assumed to be relatively minimal.

Local Revenues: Revenues could increase to the extent that restitution is received by local governments pursuant to the bill. The precise amount of any such revenues cannot be reliably estimated at this time, but is assumed to be relatively minimal.

Small Business Effect: Small business revenues could increase to the extent that restitution is received by small businesses from parents pursuant to the bill. The precise amount of any such revenues cannot be reliably estimated at this time, but is assumed to be relatively minimal.

Information Source(s): Judiciary, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Association of Boards of Education, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 12, 1999
Inc/jr Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 24, 1999
Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 14, 1999

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