

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 544 (Delegates Valderrama and Vallario)

Judiciary

Evidence - Paid Bills for Goods or Services

This bill provides that a paid bill for goods or services is admissible without the testimony of the provider of the goods or services as evidence of the authenticity of the bill for goods or services provided and the fairness and reasonableness of the charges of the provider of the goods or services, in:

- District Court; or
- circuit court, if the amount in controversy is within the District Court's exclusive original jurisdiction.

Under current law, this evidentiary rule only applies in circuit court if the case was originally filed in the District Court.

The bill also provides that a finder of fact may attach whatever weight to a paid bill that the finder of fact deems appropriate.

The bill applies prospectively only.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The change is technical in nature and would not have a direct effect on governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department

of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History:

First Reader - February 25, 1999

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Revised - House Third Reader - March 23, 1999

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