

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 494 (Senator Roesser)

Judicial Proceedings

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Foster Parents' Bill of Rights of 1999

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This bill establishes certain rights of foster parents. These rights include: (1) receiving preservice and ongoing training; (2) receiving timely financial reimbursement; (3) a fair and timely investigation of complaints concerning a parent's licensure; (4) the opportunity to receive mediation or administrative review of decisions affecting licensure; (5) full disclosure from a caseworker about any history and aspects of a child that could affect a foster parent's care; (6) notification of case planning meetings, child placement agency decisions, citizen review board meetings, and court decisions concerning a child in a foster parent's care; (7) consideration as a first source adoptive resource when an adoption plan for a child is developed; and (8) timely access to the appeals process of the child placement agency.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill's provisions could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Fiscal Analysis

**State Expenditures:** Department of Human Resources regulations (COMAR 07.02.25) appear to address many of the bill's requirements. It is assumed that complying with the bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources by close adherence to current regulations.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Human Resources, Office of Administrative Hearings, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 22, 1999

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