

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 47 (Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee)  
(Departmental - Human Resources)

Judicial Proceedings

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**Family Law - Support Payments - Deductions From Obligor's Earnings**

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This departmental bill alters the time period from 10 calendar days to 7 business days within which an employer is required to send child support payments deducted from earnings of an obligor. The bill takes effect July 1, 1999.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. However, if the bill is not passed, penalties could be assessed against all or a portion of the federal share of child support enforcement program costs, representing a potentially significant loss of federal funds.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Human Resources has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Background:** This bill conforms State law to federal law (the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunities Act of 1996).

**State Expenditures:** None. Most employers are already forwarding the child support within the 7-day time frame, including the State.  
If the bill is not passed, the federal government could assess penalties against all or a portion

of the federal share (66%) of child support enforcement program costs. The federal share of child support enforcement program costs represents \$55 million in the proposed fiscal 2000 budget.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Human Resources; Department of Budget and Management; Office of the Comptroller; Caroline, Howard, and Montgomery Counties

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 12, 1999

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