

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1218 (Delegate Conway)

Judiciary

State Police Officers - Keeping State-Issued Handgun on Retirement

This bill authorizes a State Police officer, upon retirement in good standing, to keep the officer's State issued handgun if the officer reimburses the Department of State Police for its replacement value and the Secretary of State Police authorizes the transaction. The Secretary is required to adopt regulations necessary to carry out these provisions.

This bill applies retroactively to an officer who retired on or after July 1, 1998 if the officer's former handgun remains available for acquisition.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal. The purchase of these weapons by State Police Officers upon retirement of an amount equal to the replacement value of the handgun should have a zero net effect on the finances of the State Police.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: There are approximately 90-100 State Trooper retirements annually. The current cost for a new Beretta .40 caliber sidearm is \$391. Each officer is also outfitted with three magazines costing about \$90 each. The magazines currently being used by State Troopers carry 11 rounds which exceeds the federal limit for private sales. Currently, State Police sidearms are turned in upon retirement for reissue to incoming new officers. In recent years, the only time sidearms have been available for private sale to

officers has been when there has been a department-wide conversion from one make or type of sidearm to another. For example, when the State Police discontinued using Beretta's 9 mm. sidearm weapons and purchased new .40 caliber Beretta sidearms for the entire force, the old weapons were made available for sale to current troopers through the manufacturer.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, State Retirement and Pension System of Maryland, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History:

First Reader - April 5, 1999

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Revised - House Third Reader - April 12, 1999

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