

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 9 (Senator Green. *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

False Statements to Legislative Branch Units

This bill provides that any person who knowingly and willfully makes a false statement to a unit of the General Assembly during a hearing or other proceeding that is required to be recorded by the rules of the House or Senate is guilty of a misdemeanor, and subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000, imprisonment not exceeding 1 year, or both.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues and expenditures due to the bill's penalty provisions.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in revenues and expenditures due to the bill's penalty provisions.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: General fund revenues could increase minimally as a result of the bill's monetary penalty provision from cases heard in the District Court. It is expected that the number of people convicted of this proposed crime would not be significant.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures could increase minimally as a result of the bill's incarceration penalty due to increased payments to counties for reimbursement of inmate costs and more people being committed to Division of Correction (DOC) facilities.

Persons serving a sentence of 1 year or less in a jurisdiction other than Baltimore City are sentenced to a local detention facility. The State reimburses counties for part of their

incarceration costs, on a per diem basis, after a person has served 90 days. State per diem reimbursements for fiscal 2000 are estimated to range from \$8 to \$48 per inmate depending upon the jurisdiction. Persons sentenced to a term of 1 year or less in Baltimore City are generally incarcerated in a DOC facility. Currently, the DOC average total cost per inmate, including overhead, is estimated at \$1,600 per month. It is not expected that this legislation will create the need for additional beds, personnel, or facilities, however. The average cost of housing a new DOC inmate, excluding overhead (food, medical care, etc.) is approximately \$275 per month.

This bill is not expected to materially increase court caseloads.

Local Revenues: Revenues could increase minimally as a result of the bill's monetary penalty provision from cases heard in the circuit courts.

Local Expenditures: Expenditures could increase minimally as a result of the bill's incarceration penalty. Counties pay the full cost of incarceration for people in their facilities for the first 90 days of the sentence, plus part of the per diem cost after 90 days. Per diem operating costs of local detention facilities are expected to range from \$15 to \$80 per inmate in fiscal 2000.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
(Division of Correction), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 19, 1999

emg/jr

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