

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 341 (Senator Hoffman. *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Raffles - Prizes - Handguns

This bill prohibits a person from operating a raffle in which a "handgun" is offered as a prize. Violators are subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues due to the bill's civil penalty provision. No effect on expenditures.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: None specifically applicable. Various provisions of Maryland's criminal code regulate raffles in the State by jurisdiction. Generally, raffles for charitable purposes are legal in Maryland.

Background: In November 1999, the Carroll County Republican Central Committee began selling \$5 raffle tickets to win a Beretta 9mm pistol and a copy of the book "More Guns, Less Crime," written by a University of Chicago researcher. The winner of such a raffle would be subject to a criminal record background check under Maryland's gun regulation provisions before actually receiving the weapon.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Department of Legislative Services

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drg/jr

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