

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 1082 (Delegate Montague. *et al.*)

Judiciary

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Department of Juvenile Justice - Juvenile Justice System - Standards

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This bill requires the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to:

- adopt a code of conduct and require private agencies under contract with DJJ to adopt a code of conduct for private agency staff that is in substantial compliance with the code of conduct for personnel of DJJ;
- adopt regulations that require each facility to provide specified services and programs;
- adopt regulations that provide standards for juvenile detention facilities operated by DJJ and private agencies under contract with DJJ; and
- develop and adopt regulations providing standards for nonsecure alternatives for the placement of committed children.

The bill also adds as a purpose of the juvenile causes provisions to provide to children in State care and custody a safe, humane, and caring environment, and access to required services.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** It is expected that the bill's requirements could be handled with existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The majority of the bill's provisions are not currently contained in statute.

DJJ is required to develop and provide within each facility certain educational programs, alcohol and drug abuse assessment services, and either alcohol and drug abuse referral services or treatment program.

**State Fiscal Effect:** DJJ advises that a 15-person consolidated standards unit would best be able to implement the requirements of the bill and insure continued compliance with the bill and standards referenced in the bill. Personnel and other costs for such a unit are estimated by DJJ at \$847,300 for fiscal 2001.

Legislative Services believes, however, that DJJ could develop a code of conduct, adopt regulations, and meet the bill's other requirements using existing budgeted resources. Depending on the particular regulations that are developed and other eventual effects of the bill, significant costs could be incurred in the future.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** SB 821 (Senator Green) - Judicial Proceedings.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 28, 2000  
cm/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 27, 2000

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