

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1162 (Delegate Rosenberg, *et al.*)

Appropriations

Public Assistance - Disqualification for Conviction of a Felony Involving a Controlled Dangerous Substance

This bill would remove the State, to the extent allowed by federal law, from application of Section 115 of the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996. This would enable the State to provide cash assistance and food stamps to a person otherwise qualified who has been convicted of a felony involving possession, use, or distribution of a controlled dangerous substance. The bill will not apply to the extent it is inconsistent with other provisions of law relating to substance abuse by recipients of public assistance and their eligibility for benefits.

The bill is effective July 1, 2000.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditure increase of \$47,400 in FY 2001. Federal revenues and expenditures would increase by \$431,000. Future years reflect a 1% growth annually. No impact on revenues.

(in dollars)	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
FF Revenues	\$431,100	\$435,400	\$439,800	\$444,200	\$448,600
GF Expenditures	47,400	47,900	48,400	48,900	49,300
FF Expenditures	431,100	435,400	439,800	444,200	448,600
Net Effect	(\$47,400)	(\$47,900)	(\$48,400)	(\$48,900)	(\$49,300)

Note: () = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Persons convicted of a felony involving controlled dangerous substances are not eligible for cash assistance or food stamps.

State Fiscal Effect: According to the Department of Human Resources (DHR), in fiscal 1999 there were 41 Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) and 479 food stamp recipients disqualified because of a felony conviction involving controlled dangerous substances.

Using an average monthly payment of \$127.46 for TCA, expanding the program for 41 individuals would result in an increase in general fund expenditures of approximately \$47,400 in fiscal 2001.

The food stamp program is federally funded. Using a monthly average payment of \$75, expanding the program for 479 individuals would result in an increase in federal revenues and expenditures of \$431,100 for fiscal 2001.

Expenditures for both programs are estimated to grow by 1% each year.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

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mld/jr

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