

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 593 (Washington County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

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**Washington County - County Commissioners - Reimbursement for Expenses**

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This bill provides that each of the county commissioners of Washington County may be reimbursed up to \$2,000 annually for any reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out the functions of the office.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The Board of County Commissioners of Washington County expenditures are funded entirely by the county.

**Local Effect:** If each commissioner is reimbursed \$2,000, Washington County expenditures would increase by \$4,500 annually based on currently budgeted amounts for expense reimbursements.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** County commissioners in Washington County receive annual salaries of \$20,000, with the exception of the President of the Board who receives \$20,500. The commissioners are entitled to health insurance and other fringe benefits regularly provided to county employees, but according to the law, receive no other compensation. In practice, the five commissioners are reimbursed for reasonable expenses and no limit is placed on the total amount that may be reimbursed.

**Background:** Washington County operates under the commissioner form of county

government and therefore requires the consent of the General Assembly to alter county laws. The Board of County Commissioners of Washington County has five commissioners.

**Local Expenditures:** In fiscal 2000, Washington County budgeted \$5,500 for commissioner reimbursements. Although the county commissioners each would be able to expense up to \$2,000, Washington County advises that it does not expect the amount budgeted for reimbursements to change substantially. If each of the five commissioners uses the full \$2,000 reimbursement available, annual Washington County general fund expenditures would increase by \$4,500.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Washington County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 22, 2000

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