

Department of Legislative Services  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 123 (Senator Della)

Judicial Proceedings

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Family Law - Support Enforcement - Application Fee

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This bill decreases the initial application fee charged by the Child Support Enforcement Administration (CSEA) for support services from \$25 to \$2.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Special fund revenue decrease of \$165,600 in FY 2001. Future year revenue decreases assume a constant number of applicants. Expenditures would not be affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
SF Revenues	(\$165,600)	(\$165,600)	(\$165,600)	(\$165,600)	(\$165,600)
SF Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$165,600)	(\$165,600)	(\$165,600)	(\$165,600)	(\$165,600)

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The Department of Human Resources (DHR) Child Support Enforcement Services regulations state that CSEA may not charge medical assistance recipients or Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) recipients an initial application fee, currently set at \$25. CSEA collects an initial application fee from non-TCA obligees, but is otherwise prohibited from collecting fees from the person entitled to receive support.

**State Fiscal Effect:** In fiscal 1999, CSEA collected \$180,000 in application fees. This total is based on a \$25 initial application fee from 7,200 applicants. DHR advises that an annual

average of 7,200 initial child support enforcement applications have been filed in each of the last three years and this number is expected to remain constant for fiscal 2001 and beyond. This bill would reduce the \$25 initial application fee by \$23, thus reducing special fund revenue by \$165,600 in fiscal 2001 and beyond.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Human Resources (Child Support Enforcement Administration), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 1, 2000

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