

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 344 (Senator Jimeno)

Judicial Proceedings

Courts - Sharing Information Relating to Juveniles

This bill requires the Department of Juvenile Justice, the local department of social services, State and local law enforcement agencies, the State's Attorney, and the local school superintendent within each county to enter into an agreement for the purpose of sharing information. The agreement must specify:

- the conditions under which criminal and juvenile history information is to be made available to appropriate school personnel; and
- the conditions under which school records are to be made available to the appropriate personnel of a local department of social services, a State or local law enforcement agency, a State's Attorney, or the Department of Juvenile Justice.

The parties to the agreement must agree not to disclose any information to a person or agency that is not a party to the agreement except as provided by State or federal law.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's requirements could be met by the affected State agencies using existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: The bill's requirements could be met by the affected local entities using existing budgeted resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A police or court record concerning a child is confidential and must be maintained separate from those of adults. Its contents may not be divulged, by subpoena or otherwise, except by order of court upon good cause shown. In addition, if a child enrolled in the public school system is arrested, the law enforcement agency making the arrest must promptly notify the local school superintendent of the arrest and charges.

Background: In accordance with State and federal requirements, the Department of Juvenile Justice currently has agreements with each of the 24 local education departments to obtain and share school records.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: A similar bill was introduced during the 1999 session as HB 322, but was withdrawn.

Cross File: HB 24 (Delegate Boschert) - Judiciary.

Information Source(s): Department of Juvenile Justice; Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Maryland Department of Human Resources; Kent, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 2, 2000
cm/jr

Analysis by: Claire E. Rooney

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510