

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 245 (Delegate Amedori. *et al.*)

Judiciary

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**Crimes - Unlawful Use of Firearms in Commission of Crimes**

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This bill expands a current law prohibition against the use of specified firearms in the commission of any felony or crime of violence by making the prohibition apply whenever any “firearm” is used rather than when a “handgun or an antique firearm capable of being concealed on the person” is used. Current law penalties for such an offense are not changed.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Minimal. The bill’s changes are not expected to have a significant impact on State operations or finances attributable to the Judiciary, the Division of Correction, or the Division of Parole and Probation.

**Local Effect:** Minimal. The bill’s changes are not expected to have a significant impact on the operations or finances attributable to the circuit courts, the State’s Attorneys, or local correctional facilities.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** A person is prohibited from using a handgun or an antique firearm capable of being concealed on the person in the commission of any felony or crime of violence. Violators are subject to a mandatory minimum, non-parolable sentence of five years and maximum imprisonment for 20 years. Subsequent offenders are subject to the same sentence, but it must be served consecutively, rather than concurrently, to any other sentence imposed for the underlying criminal act.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Correction), State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 14, 2000  
nlr/jr

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