

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE
 Revised

House Bill 385 (Delegate Marriott. *et al.*)

Judiciary

Juvenile Justice - Advisory Council on Minority Confinement

This bill creates a three-year 15-member Advisory Council on Minority Confinement. The council must collect and analyze data to monitor and identify the causes of any inequity that exists in processing or disposing of cases involving juvenile offenders on the basis of gender; race; family income; or mentally, emotionally, or physically handicapping conditions. The council must also develop a plan to address any such inequity. The State Advisory Board for Juvenile Justice must assist the council in fulfilling its duties, and the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) must provide staff support for the council. The council must report to the General Assembly by October 1 of each year.

The bill also requires the Secretary of Juvenile Justice to revise the State Comprehensive Juvenile Justice 3-Year Plan. That plan must include a program to address any inequity that exists in processing or disposing of cases involving juvenile offenders and a plan to monitor that program in accordance with the recommendations of the Advisory Council on Minority Confinement.

The bill also adds as a purpose of the juvenile causes provisions to ensure that children in the juvenile justice system are treated equitably regardless of gender; race; family income; and mentally, emotionally, or physically handicapping conditions.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures would increase by \$42,400 in FY 2001 for the hiring of a research statistician to support the council. Out-year expenditures reflect annualization, salary increases, inflation, and the council’s September 30, 2003 sunset.

(in dollars)	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
GF Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

GF Expenditures	\$42,400	\$51,000	\$53,500	\$14,000	\$0
Net Effect	(\$42,400)	(\$51,000)	(\$53,500)	(\$14,000)	\$0

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

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Statutory law does not address the issue of minority confinement of juveniles.

The Secretary of Juvenile Justice was required to develop a State Comprehensive Juvenile Justice 3-Year Plan by January 1, 1990. That plan was required to:

- include an inventory of all in-day treatment programs and residential care programs and an accounting of the residence of all clients;
- set out the needs of the various areas of services for clients including alcohol and drug abuse rehabilitation services;
- establish priorities for the different services needed;
- set standards for the quality of residential services, and out-reach services;
- include a program dedicated to reducing recidivism rates of clients; and
- include any other matters that the Secretary deems appropriate.

State Expenditures: DJJ would need to hire a research statistician to assist the council in its work. General fund expenditures would increase by an estimated \$42,372 in fiscal 2001, which takes into account the bill's October 1, 2000 effective date. This estimate reflects salary and fringe benefits for the new position, one-time office equipment purchases, communications, supplies, and rental space.

Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$37,229
Operating Expenses	<u>5,143</u>
Total FY 2001 State Expenditures	\$42,372

Future year expenditures reflect: (1) full salaries with 4.5% annual increases and 3% employee turnover; (2) 1% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses; and (3) the council's September 30, 2003 sunset date.

Any expense reimbursements for council members are expected to be minimal and absorbable within DJJ's existing budgeted resources.

It is expected that DJJ could revise the State Comprehensive Juvenile Justice 3-Year Plan using existing budgeted resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 24, 2000
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