

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1195 (Delegate Edwards)

Judiciary

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Garrett County - Marriage License Fee

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This bill permits the Board of County Commissioners of Garrett County to set an additional marriage license fee of up to \$40 to fund domestic violence programs.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2000.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Garrett County would receive a maximum of \$35,000 annually to fund domestic violence programs.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The basic statewide fee for a marriage license is \$10, of which \$5 is retained by the clerk of the circuit court and \$5 goes to the county general fund. In many counties (not including Garrett County), an additional fee is authorized to fund domestic violence programs.

**Local Revenues:** Garrett County advises that in recent years approximately 850 to 900 couples obtain marriage licenses in Garrett County annually. At that rate, Garrett County would receive approximately \$35,000 to fund domestic violence programs pursuant to the bill, assuming that the maximum additional fee of \$40 is charged. Garrett County further advises, however, that it anticipates a drop in the number of marriage license applications due

to a recent change in West Virginia law.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 1, 2000  
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Analysis by: Claire E. Rooney

Direct Inquiries to:  
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510