

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1296 (Delegate Grosfeld. *et al.*)

Judiciary

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**Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights - Hearing Boards - Binding Arbitration**

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This bill repeals prohibitions under the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights (LEOBR) against making actions regarding the formation of a law enforcement officers' hearing board, and decisions by such a hearing board, the subject of binding arbitration.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Minimal. All State police departments are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. The bill's changes would not significantly affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** Minimal. The bill's changes would not significantly affect local operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal. This bill may increase business opportunities for individual arbitrators and/or alternative dispute resolution organizations. The extent of such a small business benefit cannot be reliably projected, but it is assumed to be minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** LEOBR provides that a police department that has collective bargaining may negotiate an alternative method of forming a hearing board through collective bargaining. LEOBR also provides that a decision of a hearing board is final if a police agency or its superior governmental authority has agreed with a recognized or certified

exclusive collective bargaining representative that the decision is final. These provisions are prohibited from being the subject of binding arbitration.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** Similar bills were introduced during the 1996 and 1997 sessions. In 1996, HB 1206 received an unfavorable report from the House Judiciary Committee. In 1997, HB 1172 passed the House (amended) and received an unfavorable report from the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of State Police, Caroline County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 15, 2000  
drg/jr

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