

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 377 (Harford County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

Harford County - Appointment of Deputy State's Attorneys

This bill increases from one to two the number of deputy State's Attorneys that the Harford County State's Attorney may appoint.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Harford County pays the salaries and benefits of deputy State's Attorneys serving in the county.

Local Effect: Harford County expenditures would increase by approximately \$4,313 in FY 2001 and by approximately \$5,750 annually thereafter due to the promotion of an assistant State's Attorney. If a new deputy State's Attorney is hired, the cost to the county would be approximately \$81,374 in FY 2001 and \$108,500 in future years for salary and fringe benefits.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Harford County State's Attorney may only appoint one deputy State's Attorney. Appointees serve at the pleasure of the State's Attorney and have the same legal powers to represent the State as the State's Attorney.

Local Expenditures: The starting annual salary for the deputy State's Attorney in Harford County is \$81,578. The new deputy State's Attorney would most likely be promoted from a current group of assistant State's Attorneys earning between \$75,000 and \$78,000. The increase in Harford County expenditures due to the raise in salary and associated fringe benefits would be approximately \$5,750 annually. Taking into account the October 1, 2000, effective date, fiscal 2001 expenditures would increase by approximately \$4,313.

If a new attorney is hired to fill the deputy State's Attorney position, the annual increase in Harford County expenditures would be approximately \$108,499 for the salary and fringe benefits estimated at 33% of salary. However, expenditures would increase by only \$81,374 in fiscal 2001 due to the October 1 effective date.

The Harford County State's Attorney is currently seeking authorization from the county executive and county council for two additional assistant State's Attorneys.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 277 (Senator Jacobs, *et al.*) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Harford County, Maryland State's Attorneys' Association, Department of Legislative Services

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