Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1192

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Judiciary

Prince George's County - Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights - Hearing Board PG 305-01

This bill authorizes the Prince George's County Executive, under the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights, to establish a hearing board to hear administrative charges of excess force against law enforcement officers in the Prince George's County Police Department. Such a board must consist of at least three members who are not law enforcement officers.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The requirements of this bill could be handled with the existing budgeted resources of Prince George's County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Under the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights, a "hearing board" is a board authorized by a chief of police to hold a hearing on a complaint against a law enforcement officer. The board consists of at least three members who are law enforcement officers, all appointed by the chief. (Under an existing collective bargaining agreement, a different method of selecting a hearing board is allowed.) All members must have had no part in the investigation or interrogation of the officer against whom

the complaint is filed. At least one member of the hearing board must be of the same rank as the officer against whom the complaint is filed.

A hearing is any meeting in the course of an investigation, other than an interrogation, at which no testimony is taken under oath. Hearings are conducted by a "hearing board" to take testimony or receive other evidence.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 2, 2001

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