

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 843

(Senator McFadden)

Judicial Proceedings

Appropriations

Estates and Trusts - Orphans' Court - Baltimore City - Pension of Judges

This bill increases the pensions of associate judges and the chief judge of the Baltimore City Orphans' Court. The maximum pension for an associate judge is increased from \$15,000 per year to \$25,000 per year and the maximum pension for the chief judge is increased from \$15,250 per year to \$30,000 per year.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. This bill does not directly affect State government operations.

Local Effect: Pension expenditures by Baltimore City could increase by \$22,000 beginning in FY 2003.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: Associate judges receive an annual pension of \$2,500 for each year of service on or after January 1, 1984, with a maximum annual pension of \$25,000. The chief judge would receive an annual pension of \$3,000 for each year of service on or after January 1, 1984, with a maximum annual pension of \$30,000.

Current Law: Each associate judge of the Orphans' Court for Baltimore City who was in active service on or after January 1, 1981 is currently paid a pension of \$1,500 annually for each year of active service with a maximum of \$15,000 annually. Each

chief judge who was in active service on or after January 1, 1981 is paid a pension of \$1,525 annually for each year of active service with a maximum of \$15,250 annually.

Local Expenditures: The terms of the current judges of the Orphans' Court end on June 30, 2002. Assuming all three judges retired at that time, pension expenditures by Baltimore City would increase by \$22,000 beginning in fiscal 2003. To the extent they retire sooner than that, these expenses would be incurred earlier. If the current judges do not retire at that time, these expenses would be incurred later.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: SB 721 of 2000 received an unfavorable report from the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – March 5, 2001
ncs/jr

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