

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 747 (Carroll County Senators)

Judicial Proceedings

Judiciary

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**Carroll County - State's Attorney - Salary Increase**

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This bill provides that the salary of the State's Attorney of Carroll County shall be equal to 80% of the salary of a judge of the District Court of Maryland. Any change in salary is effective beginning with the next term of office in December 2002.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** State retirement pension expenditures would increase by \$530 in FY 2003 and by \$900 in FY 2004 and each year thereafter.

**Local Effect:** Carroll County expenditures would increase by approximately \$13,600 in FY 2003 and by 23,400 in FY 2004 and each year thereafter.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The State's Attorney of Carroll County earns an annual salary of \$70,000.

**Background:** The salary for the State's Attorney of Carroll County has not changed since 1995 (Chapter 330 of 1994) when the salary was increased from \$60,000 to \$70,000.

**State Fiscal Effect:** The State is responsible for making the retirement contributions for the State's Attorney of Carroll County. Based on the State's fiscal 2002 contribution rate of 4.73% of salary, expenditures would increase by \$528 in fiscal 2003 which reflects the

State's contribution for the seven months of fiscal 2003 after the new term of office begins. Future pension expenditure increases would be \$905 in fiscal 2004 and each year thereafter.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** The current salary of an associate judge of the District Court of Maryland in fiscal 2001 is \$107,120. District Court judges are entitled to the same cost-of-living increases as other State employees. Assuming that the Governor's proposed 4% cost-of-living increase (effective January 1, 2002) is approved by the General Assembly, the annual salary will increase to \$111,405 in fiscal 2002. If this is the only raise received by the District Court judges before 2003 (see discussion of judges' salaries in Additional Comments), the State's Attorney's salary will increase from \$70,000 to approximately \$89,124 when the next term begins in January 2003.

Carroll County expenditures would increase by \$13,639 in fiscal 2003 for additional salary and fringe benefits (22.5%), which accounts for the beginning of the next term of office in December 2002. Carroll County expenditures would increase by approximately \$23,381 in fiscal 2004 and each year thereafter.

**Additional Comments:** In the 2000 session the General Assembly amended cross filed joint resolutions (HJ 5 and SJ 3) to provide raises suggested by the Judicial Compensation Committee. The General Assembly amended the resolutions to provide no raises and the resolutions were adopted. The resolutions also included language that endorsed the provision that ensures that judges receive the same cost-of-living increases that other State employees receive. Alterations to judges' salaries through cost-of-living adjustments or through legislative action in the next General Assembly session would bear on the fiscal impact of the bill.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – February 16, 2001  
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