

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 1209 (Delegate R. Baker, *et al.*)

Appropriations

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**Maryland Emergency Medical System Operations Fund - Prince George's  
Hospital Regional Trauma Center**

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This bill allows funds from the Maryland Emergency Medical Systems Operations Fund to be used for the Prince George's Hospital Regional Trauma Center.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2001.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Special fund expenditures could increase in FY 2002 and in future years. The amount of this increase, however, cannot be accurately quantified at this time.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The Emergency Medical System Operations Fund is used to support the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, the Aviation Division-Maryland State Police, and the Amoss Fund (grants to local jurisdictions under the State Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Fund).

**Background:** The Prince George's Hospital Regional Trauma Center is one of the largest trauma centers in the State, and provides services to residents of the Washington

suburban area and southern Maryland. The hospital also serves a high percentage of low income patients, and consequently has a high percentage of uncompensated care. The hospital system is operated by a nonprofit corporation, Dimensions, but receives financial support from the county as need be and as funds are available.

**State Fiscal Effect:** This bill does not define or mandate an appropriation amount to fund the trauma center. It simply adds the trauma center to the list of entities that are eligible for funding from this source. Nevertheless, it can be assumed that if any such appropriation were made it would cause an increase in special fund expenditures in fiscal 2002 and beyond. It should be noted that based on fiscal 2002 budget allowances, the Department of Legislative Services estimates that a \$7.2 million deficit will occur in the fund by the end of fiscal 2002. Consequently, any increase in expenditures to fund the trauma center will increase the deficit.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, Prince Georges County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – February 27, 2001  
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