

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1381

(Delegates Vallario and Valderrama)

Judiciary

Judicial Proceedings

Attorney's Lien - Settlements

This bill provides that an attorney's lien attaches to any settlement that a client receives as a result of legal services that the client's attorney performs if the client owes the attorney a fee or other compensation for those services.

The bill's provisions apply only to an agreement between an attorney and client entered into on or after the bill's October 1, 2002 effective date.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: This bill is not expected to have any material impact on governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: None -- see above.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful. Law firms may have increased ability to collect outstanding fees for services as a result of this bill.

Analysis

Current Law: An attorney's lien attaches to any judgment or award that a client receives as a result of legal services that the client's attorney performs if the client owes the attorney a fee or other compensation for those services.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 18, 2002
ncs/cer Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 29, 2002

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