

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 693

(Washington County Delegation)

Judiciary

Judicial Proceedings

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Washington County - Correctional Services - Home Detention and Pretrial and  
Work Release Programs

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This bill requires the Sheriff of Washington County to establish a pretrial release program and a work release program, in addition to the county's current home detention program. The sheriff is also required to adopt necessary regulations for program implementation. A court is authorized, at the time of sentencing or at any time during incarceration, to place eligible inmates into each program. The bill allows for convicted persons not yet incarcerated to participate in the programs. Persons incarcerated for or previously convicted of a crime of violence and persons who have been found guilty of child abuse or escape, may not participate.

The sheriff is authorized to collect a fee from each participating inmate, or waive or reduce the fee. The maximum number of inmates who may participate in each program may be determined by the sheriff. A violation of any terms or conditions of any program subjects the violator to applicable criminal penalties for escape and any disciplinary actions allowed by law.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** One-time \$53,000 expenditure for the Sheriff of Washington County in FY 2004 for the purchase and upgrading of monitoring equipment. Future expenditures relating to program administration and additional equipment or equipment maintenance would be minimal and could be handled with revenues from fees charged to, and collected from, participating inmates. **This bill imposes a mandate on a unit of local government.**

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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### **Analysis**

**Current Law:** The Sheriff of Washington County operates, as statutorily required, a home detention program under similar provisions to those being applied to the pretrial release and work release programs under this bill.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 19, 2003  
mld/cer Revised - House Third Reader - March 18, 2003

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