

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 384  
Judiciary

(Delegate Conaway)

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Baltimore City Circuit Court - Jury Commissioner - Designation and  
Supervision

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This bill authorizes the clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City to appoint a jury commissioner or acting jury commissioner, who is entitled to compensation as set by law. This creates an exception to the general rule that a county's jury plan designate a jury commissioner.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill would change the appointing authority for the jury commissioner for Baltimore City, but the jury commissioner and his/her staff would continue to be paid by the State.

**Local Effect:** None. All employees affected by the bill are employed by the State.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** A jury commissioner is the individual designated in accordance with a county's jury plan to manage jury selection and service. A jury commissioner for a circuit court is either the clerk of the circuit court or another individual designated in the jury plan. The Baltimore City jury plan provides that the jury commissioner is selected by the circuit court bench, and is an employee of the court, while the jury commissioner's staff are employees in the circuit court clerk's office. Both the jury commissioner and staff are currently paid by the State.

**Background:** The office of the clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City currently employs 3 managers and 10 staff at a cost of \$499,694 in fiscal 2006, paid for out of State funds.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 9, 2007  
nas/jr

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