

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 287
Judiciary

(Delegate Love)

Finance

Anne Arundel County - Department of Detention Facilities Employment
Applicants - Polygraph Examinations

This bill authorizes the Anne Arundel Department of Detention Facilities to require or demand an applicant for employment as a correctional officer, or in any other capacity that involves direct contact with an inmate in the department, to submit to or take a lie detector test.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County expenditures could increase by approximately \$17,000 in FY 2009 and by \$22,000 annually thereafter. County revenues would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: With certain specified exceptions, an employer may not require or demand, as a condition of employment, prospective employment, or continued employment, that an individual submit to or take a lie detector or similar test. Specified exceptions include an individual who applies for employment or is employed as a correctional officer of the Baltimore City Jail and local detention centers in the following counties: Baltimore, Cecil, Charles, Frederick, Harford, and St. Mary's. Also exempt is any correctional officer or person in any other capacity that involves direct personal contact with an inmate in the Washington County and Calvert County detention centers.

Local Fiscal Effect: The Background Investigation Unit of the Anne Arundel Department of Detention Facilities screened 222 applicants for employment in fiscal 2007. Assuming a cost of \$100 per polygraph screening, at current applicant levels Anne Arundel County expenditures could increase by \$16,650 in fiscal 2009, reflecting the bill's October 1, 2008 effective date. Expenditures could increase by approximately \$22,200 annually thereafter. County revenues would not be affected.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 123 (Senator Astle) – Finance.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 29, 2008
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Analysis by: Erik P. Timme

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510