

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1222

(Delegate Ramirez, *et al.*)

Judiciary

Judicial Proceedings

Correctional Services - Division of Parole and Probation - Supervision Fee

This bill authorizes the Division of Parole and Probation to recommend to the Parole Commission that a parole supervisee be exempt wholly or partly from the \$40 monthly parole supervision fee.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal. Any resulting impact on fee assessments and collections are assumed to be minimal.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Legislation adopted in 1991 mandated the imposition of monthly supervision fees for offenders supervised by DPP. Until 2005, the monthly fees of \$40 for parolees and mandatory supervision releases and \$25 for probationers had remained unchanged since their inception. Chapter 444 of 2005 (Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2005) increased the supervision fee charged to probationers to \$40 per month for five years, making the monthly fee consistent for all supervisees. The supervision fees collected are paid into the general fund. Probationers under supervision before 2005, continue to pay the \$25 monthly fee.

Both the Maryland Parole Commission and DPP are within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

Background: As of December 31, 2009, DPP was supervising about 9,850 parolees and mandatory release supervisees.

According to the Parole Commission, there has been a recent significant increase in the number of requests to reduce supervision fees or to exempt supervisees from the fees. The increase is attributed by the commission to recent seminars conducted by the commission that provided information about making such requests. The commission advises that all of the requests for exemption for reduction of or exemption from the supervision fees have been granted.

DPP advises that the bill's requirement to conduct an evaluation of each supervisee at the beginning of the person's parole or mandatory supervision term, and when a change of circumstance occurs, would provide some unquantified operational difficulties.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 499 (Senator Raskin) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Department of Budget and Management, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Maryland Parole Commission), Division of Parole and Probation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 26, 2010
mpc/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - March 26, 2010

Analysis by: Guy G. Cherry

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