

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 806 (Senator Raskin, *et al.*)  
Judicial Proceedings

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Criminal Law - Hazing - Penalty

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This bill increases the maximum monetary penalty for hazing from \$500 to \$5,000. The bill retains the maximum incarceration penalty for hazing under existing statute (imprisonment for up to six months).

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Minimal increase in general fund revenues from fines imposed in the District Court. Expenditures are not affected.

**Local Effect:** Minimal increase in local revenues from fines imposed in circuit court cases. Expenditures are not affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Under the statutory prohibition on hazing, a person may not recklessly or intentionally do an act or create a situation that subjects a student to the risk of serious bodily injury for the purpose of an initiation into a student organization of a school, college, or university. Violators are guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for up to six months and/or a \$500 maximum fine. The implied or express consent of a student to hazing is not a defense.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 28, 2014  
mam/kdm

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