

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 565
Judiciary

(Delegate Simmons, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Correctional Services - Investigation of Suspected Homicide - Reporting

This bill requires the Department of State Police (DSP), by December 31 each year, to post on its website and submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a report detailing the following information for the preceding calendar year: (1) the number of investigations completed by DSP – pursuant to current law – relating to the death of an incarcerated individual suspected to be a homicide that occurs while the incarcerated individual is in the custody of the Division of Correction (DOC) whether within or outside a correctional facility; and (2) the number of cases referred by DSP for prosecution following a completed investigation.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: DSP can handle the bill’s requirements with existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None. Local government finances and operations are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: DSP must investigate any death of an incarcerated individual suspected to be a homicide that occurs while the incarcerated individual is in the custody of DOC whether within or outside a correctional facility. DSP may act within the limits of a municipal corporation that maintains a police force when conducting such an investigation.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 36 (Senator Benson) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Frederick, and Montgomery counties; Office of the Attorney General; Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy; Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Maryland Department of Health; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Department of State Police; Department of Legislative Services

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