

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2014 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

Senate Bill 718 (Senators Ferguson and Conway)  
 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Health and Government Operations

**Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention - Juvenile Charged as Adult  
 Population Forecast**

This bill requires, by December 1 each year, the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on the expected population of each State and local detention facility of juveniles charged as adults during the next calendar year and the methodology and assumptions used in developing the projection. The bill specifies the juvenile population statistics that must be considered by GOCCP in calculating the forecast. Each State and local detention facility must provide the juvenile population data to GOCCP in a standardized format developed by GOCCP. Specified data for the GOCCP report on each juvenile charged as an adult is enumerated.

The bill terminates September 30, 2017.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$50,000 annually in FY 2015 through 2017 and by \$10,000 in FY 2018 for GOCCP to complete the required report. FY 2018 costs reflect the bill’s termination date. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) can meet the bill’s data reporting requirements with existing budgeted resources.

(in dollars)	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	50,000	50,000	50,000	10,000	0
Net Effect	(\$50,000)	(\$50,000)	(\$50,000)	(\$10,000)	\$0

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect*

**Local Effect:** Because a relatively small number of juveniles charged as adults are incarcerated in local detention facilities, it is assumed that all local correctional facilities can meet the bill's data reporting requirements with existing budgeted resources. In addition, a new centralized case management system for local jails is being developed by the Maryland Correctional Administrators Association.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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## Analysis

**Current Law/Background:** The bill's data collection and reporting requirements are not currently required by law.

The Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy (MSCCSP), in conjunction with consultants at Applied Research Services Inc., developed a sentencing/correctional simulation model to help project the potential impact of proposed changes to the sentencing guidelines on Maryland's correctional population. However, MSCCSP concluded that additional resources were needed so that the model could reach its full potential. For example, the model needs input on predicted arrest patterns and changes in DPSCS policies in order to build assumptions that will lead to accurate projections of the impact of new laws and policies, which would need to be reviewed and updated regularly. MSCCSP also found that the model would benefit from the incorporation of local correctional facilities data so it could also project the impact of proposed changes on the local jail populations.

MSCCSP has hired a full-time program analyst to maintain and operate the simulation model. Presently, the simulation model is capable of providing projections of the potential impact proposed changes in sentencing guidelines and legislation may have on State adult inmate populations. MSCCSP is currently working to enhance both the accuracy and scope of the model and to obtain the most recent data from DPSCS for use in the model.

According to the MSCCSP *2013 Annual Report*, DPSCS anticipates having new data available to MSCCSP in 2014. In addition, a new centralized case management system for local jails in Maryland is being developed by the Maryland Correctional Administrators Association, which has the potential to offer a new centralized and easily accessible source of jail data. MSCCSP hopes to utilize the simulation model on a limited basis during the 2014 session to test the model's capabilities and determine the necessary resources for the use of the model in future years.

**State Expenditures:** GOCCP advises that the data collection requirements of the bill can be handled with existing budgeted resources. However, the development and operation of a population forecasting model for the population of juveniles charged as adults requires contractual services estimated to cost about \$50,000 annually from fiscal 2015 through 2017. Because of the bill's September 30, 2017 termination date, fiscal 2018 costs are estimated at only \$10,000. DPSCS advises that the data reporting requirements of the bill pertaining to State correctional facilities can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 589 (Delegate Pena-Melnyk, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

**Information Source(s):** Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, Department of Juvenile Services, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Comptroller's Office, Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy, Montgomery County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 10, 2014  
ggc/lgc Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 20, 2014

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