

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

Senate Bill 894 (Senator Smith)  
Judicial Proceedings

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Commission on Judicial Disabilities - Release of Information - Criminal Activity

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This bill requires the Commission on Judicial Disabilities, notwithstanding Maryland Rule 18-407, to provide information involving a judge's criminal activity to applicable law enforcement and prosecuting officials, including a grand jury if the information is requested by subpoena.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill does not materially affect State finances or operations.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not materially affect local government finances or operations.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** As authorized under §§ 4A and 4B of Article IV of the Maryland Constitution, the Commission on Judicial Disabilities investigates complaints against judges in the State's courts and recommends disciplinary action to the Court of Appeals, as appropriate.

Under Maryland Rule 18-407(b)(4)(A), the commission *may* provide information involving criminal activity, including information requested by subpoena from a grand jury, to applicable law enforcement and prosecuting officials.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties; Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Department of State Police; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 28, 2022  
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