

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1330
Judiciary

(Delegate R. Watson, *et al.*)

State Law Library - Renaming

This bill renames the State Law Library as the Thurgood Marshall Law Library. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any potential minimal costs to the Judiciary associated with the bill's changes are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill makes numerous technical changes throughout relevant statutory provisions to reflect the new name. The bill does not affect (1) the terms of office of members of any commission, office, department, agency, or other unit; (2) the status of any transaction or employment entered into or existing before the bill's effective date; (3) any right, duty, or interest flowing from a statute amended by the bill; or (4) the continuity of any commission, office, department, agency, or other unit and related matters.

Letterhead, business cards, and other documents bearing the new name may not be used until the materials bearing the previous name have been used. The publisher of the Annotated Code of Maryland is required to change cross references and terminology throughout the code and to describe each change in an editor's note.

Current Law/Background: The State Law Library, within the Judicial Branch, provides legal information to the State's appellate courts and agencies throughout State government. The library also serves as the resource center for the circuit court libraries and as a select U.S. government repository for federal agency and congressional publications. The governing board of the library is the Library Committee that is composed of at least three members who are appointed by the Court of Appeals.

Thurgood Marshall was born in Baltimore on July 2, 1908, and began working for the Baltimore branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People upon his graduation from Howard University Law School in 1933. His first major case was *Murray v. Pearson* (1935), which prohibited the University of Maryland School of Law (which, in 1930, had rejected Marshall's application on the basis of race) from rejecting applicants based on race.

Marshall became one of the most prominent civil rights attorneys in the nation. He eventually argued 32 cases before the Supreme Court and won 29 of them, including *Shelley v. Kraemer* (1948) – which made racial covenants in real estate unenforceable – and *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* (1954). Marshall was appointed to the Court of Appeals of the Second Circuit in 1961 and became the U.S. Solicitor General in 1965. In 1967, Marshall became the first African American justice to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court; he served for 24 years before his retirement. Marshall died in 1993.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 594 (Senator Peters) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); uscourts.gov; Department of Legislative Services

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