

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2015 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 981 (Cecil County Delegation)  
Health and Government Operations

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**Cecil County - Orphans' Court - Sessions**

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This bill requires the Orphans' Court for Cecil County to hold its sessions every Tuesday, and more often if necessary.

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**Fiscal Summary**

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

**Local Effect:** The bill is not expected to materially affect Cecil County operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Unless a different time is specified in statute or prescribed in local law, the Orphans' Court must be held on the second Tuesday of February, April, June, August, October, and December, and more often if necessary.

**Background:** Under the Maryland Constitution, each county elects, for a term of four years, three judges to the orphans' court of their respective jurisdictions, with the exception of Montgomery and Harford counties, where a circuit court judge sits as the orphans' court. The orphans' courts are the State's probate courts. The courts supervise the handling of estates and also have jurisdiction over the guardianship of minors and their property.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 4, 2015  
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