

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 997 (Delegate Pitkin, et al.)
Environmental Matters

Parents' Right to Know - Pesticide Applications - Schools and Child Care Centers

This bill requires a school principal or child care operator to provide staff members and a child's parent with at least 48 hours advance notice of a pesticide application at a public school or licensed child care center. This bill provides an exception for emergency applications. The bill also requires a school principal and a child care operator to post specified signs in the area of the pesticide application.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Indeterminate expenditure increase. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: Indeterminate minimal expenditure increase on local governments. Revenues would not be affected. **This bill imposes a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The Department of Agriculture advises that this bill would require an additional five employees (four Agriculture Inspectors and an Office Secretary) at a cost of \$214,500 in fiscal 1997 to handle an anticipated increase in inspection and enforcement activities.

However, the Department of Fiscal Services advises that, State expenditures would only increase if there are a significant number of complaints and attendant investigations resulting from the bill's provision. Any such increase cannot be reliably estimated at this time. Further, the bill's notification requirements can be handled within existing resources.

Local Expenditures: Local boards of education expenditures could increase by a minimal amount due to the costs of printing notices and signs. However, a portion or all of these costs could be saved if notices are sent home with students.

Information Source(s): Department of Agriculture, Department of Human Resources,
Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 12, 1996

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