

Department of Fiscal Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

Senate Bill 503 (Senator Astle, *et al.*)  
Finance

Referred to Environmental Matters

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**Job-Related Drug Testing**

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This enrolled bill provides that job-related drug testing includes testing of hair under specified circumstances in addition to blood and urine samples. An employer may use hair as a specimen only for pre-employment purposes. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) must adopt regulations by July 1, 1997 for the certification of laboratories that perform job-related drug testing with hair specimens. The bill adds laboratory standards acceptable to DHMH as one of the criterion with which laboratories engaging in job-related drug testing may be required to comply.

The bill takes effect October 1, 1997, except that the bill's provision regarding regulations takes effect June 1, 1997.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** No net effect. Offsetting general fund expenditure and revenue increase.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful effect on small businesses as discussed below.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Effect:** The Laboratories Administration advises that only three laboratories in the country currently perform job-related drug testing of hair specimens, none of which are in Maryland. It intends to require through regulation that all expenses required to investigate and certify out-of-state laboratories be paid for by the out-of-state laboratories. Therefore, any increased expenditures for additional laboratory certifications would be offset by an equal amount in additional revenues.

**Small Business Effect:** The bill's inclusion of hair testing could promote the development of small business laboratories that provide job-related drug testing of hair specimens.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Laboratories Administration, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration)

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 25, 1997  
mld Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 25, 1997  
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