

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Revised

House Bill 315 (Delegate Hixson. *et al.*)

Judiciary

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Antidiscrimination Act

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This bill generally prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation with regard to public accommodations, labor and employment, and housing. Current law prohibits discrimination in these areas on the basis of race, sex, creed, color, religion, national origin, marital status, and physical or mental handicap.

The bill exempts (1) religious organizations from provisions of the bill relating to employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation; and (2) renters of rooms or apartments in an owner's principal residence from provisions of the bill relating to housing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. Although the bill may result in additional cases for the Judiciary, the Human Relations Commission, and the Office of Administrative Hearings, any increase in workload is expected to be minimal and could be absorbed within existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Information Source(s):** Human Relations Commission, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Office of Administrative Hearings, Department of Legislative Services, Office of the Governor

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 8, 1999

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Revised - House Third Reader - April 1, 1999

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