

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1213
Economic Matters

(Delegate McComas, *et al.*)

Alcohol Without Liquid Machines

This bill prohibits a person from using, purchasing, or offering for sale an alcohol without liquid (AWOL) machine. A violator is guilty of a misdemeanor and faces a fine of up to \$1,000; each violation is a separate offense.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Because it is assumed that the bill would apply in a limited number of cases, State finances would not be materially impacted.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: There is no prohibition against using, purchasing, or selling an AWOL machine in the State of Maryland.

Background: An AWOL machine vaporizes alcoholic beverages and blends them with oxygen, creating a mist which is then inhaled through the mouth. This is a new product which has recently been introduced into the marketplace.

Legislation has been recently introduced in at least a dozen states which would prohibit the use of alcohol vaporizing devices.

State Fiscal Effect: State general fund revenues would increase by up to \$1,000 for each convicted violator. While it is unknown how many violators there would be, it is assumed that the number would be minimal.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office, Baltimore County, Charles County, Frederick County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Somerset County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 2005
mp/ljm

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