

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2006 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 106 (Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee)  
(By Request – Departmental – Labor, Licensing, and Regulation)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Economic Matters

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**State Board of Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration  
Contractors - Inspectors - Continuing Education Courses**

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This departmental bill allows continuing education courses for heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and refrigeration inspectors to be conducted by a county or local government, with approval of the State Board of Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration Contractors.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill would not affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** Minimal.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** A State, county, or local government-appointed or employed heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and refrigeration inspector each year must attend a continuing education course conducted by the State Board of Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration Contractors and meet minimum standards established by the board. Those standards are administered, for a county or local government inspector,

by the county or local government that appoints or employs the inspector, and for a State inspector, by the State.

**Background:** The board currently conducts a full-day seminar once each year for inspectors and advises that it does not have adequate resources to provide the course at various times throughout the year. Some local governments have requested that they be able to offer the training to their inspectors on a staggered basis so that all of their inspectors are not tied up on the one day out of the year the State offers the course.

The State Board of Plumbing, in a provision under the Business Occupations and Professions Article that is very similar to this bill, is authorized to approve continuing education courses administered by county and local governments that allow plumbing inspectors to meet continuing education requirements. In general, a number of State boards that regulate business occupations and professions are given the authority to approve continuing education courses conducted by third parties, including those regulating accountants, architects, foresters, and interior designers.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 24, 2006  
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