

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 399

(Senator Pipkin, *et al.*)

Finance

Economic Matters

Business Regulation - State Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board

This bill prohibits members of the State Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board from serving more than two consecutive terms. The bill also requires the racial and gender composition of the board to reflect the population of Maryland.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Modifying the terms of board membership or board composition would not materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The State Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board advises and consults with the Commissioner of Labor and Industry on reasonable regulations to prevent public harm from use of amusement attractions.

Board members are appointed to four-year staggered terms by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Board membership includes one mechanical engineer, one carnival owner, one representative of State and county fairs, two amusement park owners, and four consumer members. The Governor is required to consider the geographic representation of the board in making appointments.

Background: The Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation advises that board membership currently comprises eight white men and one African American woman. Females comprise just over one-half the Maryland population. Less than two-thirds of the Maryland population is white; almost 30% is African American.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: A similar bill was introduced in 2006 as SB 1095. The bill passed the Senate but received an unfavorable report from the House Economic Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; U.S. Census Bureau; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 2007
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