

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 146
Finance

(Senator Reilly)

Economic Matters

Business and Economic Development - Foreign Trade Zones - Information

This bill requires the Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) to include on its website (1) the foreign trade zones (FTZs) located in the State; (2) a listing of the Maryland regulations relevant to FTZs located in the State, including links to each regulation; and (3) a link to the U.S. Foreign Trade Zones Board website.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: DBED can update its website with the required information with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

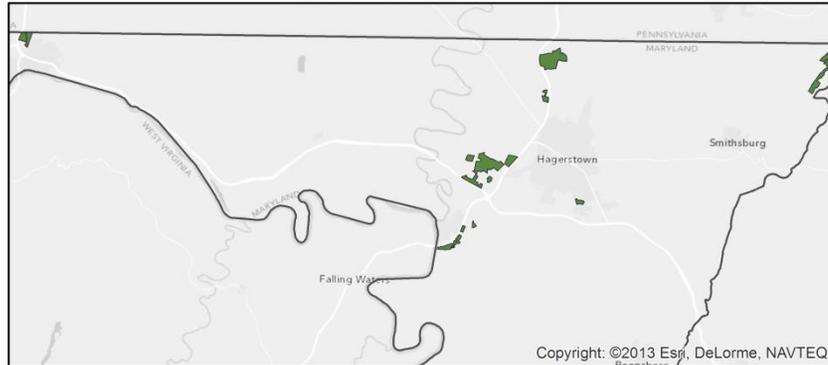
Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

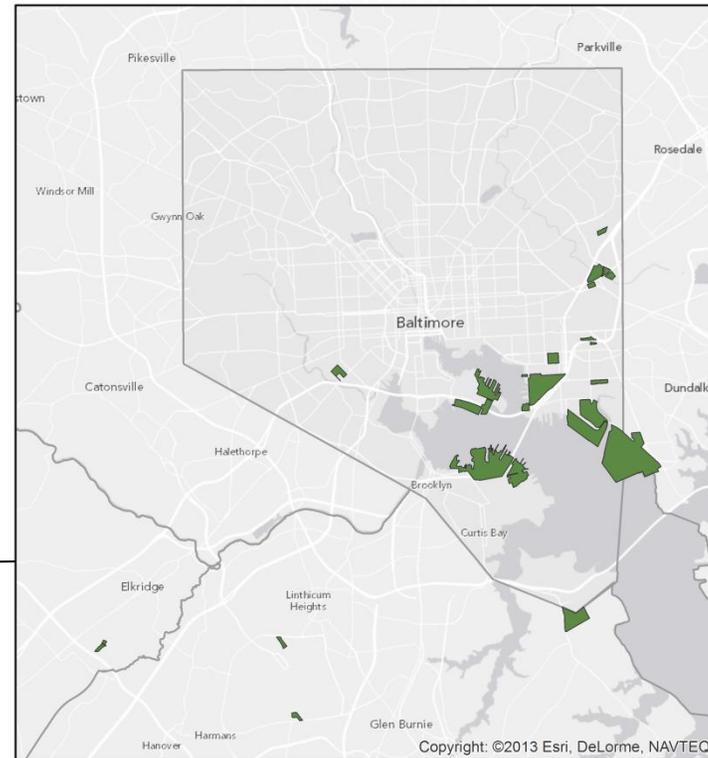
Current Law/Background: State law requires that FTZs located within the State conform to the federal Foreign Trade Zones Act. According to DBED, FTZs promote domestic employment and help firms compete in the global marketplace. An FTZ is located in or near a U.S. Customs port of entry, where foreign and domestic merchandise is generally considered to be international commerce. Foreign or domestic merchandise may enter a zone without a formal customs entry or the payment of customs duties or government excise taxes. The U.S. Department of Commerce reports that there are about 250 general-purpose FTZs and more than 450 subzones approved. There are four FTZs in Maryland, each administered by local jurisdictions, as shown below in **Exhibit 1**.

Exhibit 1 Foreign Trade Zone Locations

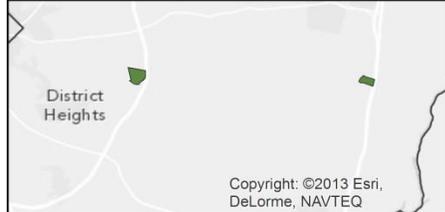
Washington County Zone #255



**BWI Airport Zone #73
Baltimore Zone #74**



Prince George's County Zone #63



 Indicates zone locations

Source: Department of Economic Development; Department of Legislative Services

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Business and Economic Development, U.S.
Department of Commerce, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 17, 2014
ns/rhh

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