

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 1161

(Delegate Lisanti)

Environment and Transportation

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Municipalities - Boat Docking and Storage - User Fees - Authorized Uses

This bill expands the authorized uses of municipal boat docking and storage user fee revenue to include land acquisition and the related construction and maintenance of public facilities to enhance public use and water access.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill alters the uses of municipal boat docking and storage user fee revenues but does not alter the fees that may be imposed or the amount of revenue collected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A municipality may impose, by ordinance, a user fee on charges for the docking and storage of boats. The rate of the user fee may not exceed 5% of the rental charges for the docking and storage of boats. Boat slip user fees may not exceed \$100 annually per boat slip.

A municipality must use any revenue from the user fee to maintain and enhance (1) water quality; (2) water and wastewater treatment facilities; (3) marinas; (4) law enforcement; (5) public safety; or (6) fire services.

Background: The Maryland Municipal League advises that only three municipalities – Charlestown (Cecil County), Havre de Grace (Harford County), and Rock Hall (Kent County) – currently impose boat docking and storage user fees. Revenue collections total approximately \$50,000 for the Town of Rock Hall and \$5,000 for the Town of Charlestown.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): City of Annapolis, City of Salisbury, Town of Charlestown, Town of Rock Hall, Maryland Municipal League, Department of Legislative Services

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kb/hlb

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