

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 307

(Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment
Committee)(By Request - Departmental - Labor)

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Economic Matters

Public Safety - Board of Boiler Rules - Membership, Sunset Extension, and Report

This departmental bill extends the termination date for the Board of Boiler Rules within the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL) by five years to July 1, 2029, subject to the evaluation and reestablishment provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (MPEA). MDL must submit a report by July 1, 2025, to the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) with information regarding the Board of Boiler Rules to be determined by JAEC. The bill also adds a member to the Board of Boiler Rules. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2024.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund revenues and expenditures for the board are maintained through FY 2029. Otherwise, adding a member to the board and the bill's reporting requirement can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: MDL has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Analysis

Current Law/Background: The Board of Boiler Rules advises State regulators on the construction, operation, installation, maintenance, repair, and inspection of boilers and

pressure vessels. Safety inspectors employed by the State and the insurance industry verify that boilers have been installed and are being maintained in compliance with regulations and industry standards. The board consists of 10 members.

Maryland Program Evaluation Act

The board is 1 of approximately 60 regulatory entities and activities subject to termination unless reauthorized periodically through statute. Under MPEA, these entities may also be subject to an evaluation by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA) within DLS prior to their termination. However, OPEGA may conduct an evaluation only if directed by specified entities or by legislation. The board is scheduled to terminate July 1, 2024; OPEGA was not asked to conduct an evaluation prior to its termination. Accordingly, the board has requested reauthorizing legislation.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Labor; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 17, 2024
js/mcr Third Reader - March 22, 2024
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 22, 2024

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TITLE OF BILL: Public Safety – Board of Boiler Rules – Membership, Sunset Extension, and Report

BILL NUMBER: SB0307

PREPARED BY: Devki Virk, Commissioner Labor & Industry

PART A. LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

 X WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

OR

 WILL HAVE A MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS