Department of Fiscal Services

Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE Revised

House Bill 321 (Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee) (Departmental - Agriculture)

Environmental Matters

Referred to Economic and Environmental Affairs

Weights and Measures Law

This amended departmental bill eliminates the package size restrictions on specified agricultural commodities.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Eliminating these restrictions would not directly affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Agriculture has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services disagrees with this assessment as discussed below. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Fiscal Analysis

Small Business Effect: This bill could benefit small businesses producing various agricultural commodities to the extent that they are able to adjust product packaging sizes to meet consumer demand. In addition, flour, cornmeal, and hominy products are no longer affected by the bill.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Agriculture, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 7, 1996

ncs Revised - House Third Reader - March 12, 1996

Analysis by: Kim E. Wells Direct Inquiries to:

Reviewed by: John Rixey John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710 (301) 858-3710