

Department of Fiscal Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 503 (Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee)  
(Departmental - Environment)  
Environmental Matters

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Small Pond Exemptions - Height Measurement

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This bill modifies the height measurement to qualify for a “small pond exemption” from obtaining a permit from the Maryland Department of the Environment by altering the location of the measurement from the downstream toe to the upstream toe of the dam. Under current law, ponds receiving a small pond exemption are reviewed instead through local Soil Conservation Districts.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. There are no fees attached to the relevant permit, so revenues would not be affected. The bill is only expected to impact 8-10 ponds per year, and therefore should not decrease permitting expenditures.

**Local Effect:** None. Local Soil Conservation Districts can absorb any increased workload with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Environment has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of the Environment, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 12, 1996  
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