

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 4 (Delegate Curran, et al.)
Commerce and Government Matters

Secretary of the Environment - Adoption of Regulations - Relationship to Federal Regulations

This bill prohibits the Secretary of the Department of the Environment (MDE) from adopting regulations based upon federal regulations under specified federal Acts that have not become final, unless the delay in adoption will violate a federal law.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential indeterminate decrease in revenues. Indeterminate effect on expenditures.

Local Effect: Potential indeterminate decrease in revenues. Indeterminate effect on expenditures.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: This bill could postpone the adoption of certain State regulations, which could affect the collection of fees for these programs. Any such decrease is assumed to be minimal. In addition, the bill could restrict access to federal grants requiring State actions that may go beyond current federal regulations.

State Expenditures: To the extent that this bill could delay or prohibit the implementation of regulations that are more streamlined or flexible than current federal regulations, expenditure savings would not be realized. However, the bill is also likely to delay or prohibit the adoption of more ambitious and more expensive programs. This could reduce future expenditures by a potentially significant amount.

Local Effect: As discussed above, the bill could restrict access to grant revenues and

potentially delay or prohibit more streamlined regulations. However, it could also delay or prohibit more extensive State regulations that necessitate local expenditures.

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

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