

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 105 (Chairman, Economic Matters Committee)
(Departmental - Labor, Licensing, and Regulation)
Economic Matters Referred to Economic and Environmental Affairs

State Board of Public Accountancy - Membership, Licensure, and Examinations

This amended departmental bill alters the membership of the State Board of Public Accountancy by eliminating the requirement that one member be an attorney who is not a certified public accountant and providing that five members must be certified public accountants. In addition, the bill permits certified public accountants licensed in another state who have been practicing five out of the last ten years to become licensed in Maryland even if they do not meet the current education or examination requirements. Finally, the bill provides that the State Board of Public Accountancy may publicly release a list including the names and mailing addresses of all licensees and permit holders.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund revenues and expenditures could increase by an indeterminate but nominal amount as discussed below.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation has determined that this bill has no impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment as discussed below. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: Changing the composition of the board and altering the licensing requirements for out-of-state applicants should not significantly impact the operations or finances of the State Board of Public Accountancy. The board may experience a nominal increase in

revenues and expenditures if the board is permitted to copy and distribute lists of current licensees and permit holders.

The Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation charges the public a service fee for copying and distributing lists. The current fee is 25 cents per page, \$44 for a computerized disc copy, and \$4 for each additional disc copy. The department anticipates that less than 50 copies will be requested and distributed annually; so any increase in revenue and expenditures should be minimal.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Fiscal Services advises that the bill would not impact small businesses because it does not substantially alter the operations of CPA firms nor does it increase CPA licensing fees.

Information Source(s): Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 22, 1996
ncs Revised - House Third Reader - March 18, 1996

Analysis by: Tina Bjarekull
Reviewed by: John Rixey
(410) 841-3710
(301) 858-3710

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst