

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 535 (Delegate Getty)
Environmental Matters

Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation - Easements - Exclusions

The bill allows landowners to exclude up to two acres surrounding a pre-existing dwelling from easement property in specified cases. It requires landowners to pay the State for any acreage of excluded property that exceeds the initial one acre allowed.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Indeterminate increase in special fund revenue; expenditures would not be affected.

Local Effect: None, as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: There will be an increase in special fund revenues due to the State being reimbursed for any acreage released from easement restrictions above the initial one acre. However, no estimate is currently available on the number of acres that would be affected.

Local Effect: The local agricultural land preservation advisory board and the planning and zoning authority would have to provide approval as the need for more than one acre released from easement must be justified. This should not result in any increase in expenditures since such approval is currently needed for any exclusion.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 7, 1996

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