

Department of Fiscal Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1245 (Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee)  
(Departmental - Agriculture)  
Environmental Matters

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Plant Disease Control - Fees

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This departmental bill raises certification fees for nurseries, plant brokers, and plant dealers from \$50 to \$75.

This bill is effective July 1, 1996.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The Maryland Department of Agriculture's (MDA) FY 1997 budget allowance reflects a \$37,500 reduction in general funds with an equivalent increase in special funds as a result of the bill's fee increase. However, this budgetary change is not made contingent on passage of this bill.

**Local Effect:** None.

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

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Fiscal Analysis

**State Effect:** According to the MDA, 1,500 businesses currently pay the \$50 fee. Raising the fee by \$25 would increase revenues by \$37,500. This increase in special fund revenues is already accounted for in the fiscal 1997 budget allowance.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 11, 1996

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