

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1457 (Delegate Guns)
Environmental Matters

Lead Paint - Work Practices and Accreditation - Area Exemption

This emergency bill provides that specified lead paint abatement requirements do not apply to repair, maintenance, renovation work, or risk reduction treatments in affected property that results in the disturbance of less than three square feet of a lead containing surface area, except for window removal or replacement.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential indeterminate decrease in revenues and expenditures.

Local Effect: Potential indeterminate decrease in expenditures. Revenues would not be affected.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: Chapter 411 of 1994 established the Lead Paint Poisoning Prevention Program. The program provides limited liability relief for owners of rental property built before 1950 and others in exchange for the reduction of lead hazards in these older rental properties and limited compensation of children poisoned by lead. The program also provides increased public health intervention. The program receives funding from property registration fees: \$10 annually for dwellings built before 1950 and \$5 annually for non-affected properties built after 1949. Although the program was due to begin in October 1994, controversy over MDE's proposed regulations delayed full implementation of the program until February 1996.

State and local government facilities are exempt from statutory lead standards if they are subject to more stringent standards.

State Effect: Under this bill, there will be a decrease in the number of times that work on a property must follow work practice and accreditation requirements, which could affect the number of accredited workers, supervisors, and inspectors needed.

Application and renewal fees for these accreditations range from \$100 to \$200. To the extent that this legislation results in a decrease in demand for cleanup and inspection services, it is probable that fewer individuals would be applying for accreditations to do this work. Accreditation fee revenues would therefore decrease as would administrative expenditures on accreditation processing. MDE has budgeted \$112,924 for inspection oversight in fiscal 1997; however, the amount of funding needed for this activity could decrease by an indeterminate amount under this legislation.

To the extent that any State-owned facilities exist that are not exempt from statutory lead standards, State expenditures associated with repair and risk reduction work could decrease.

Local Effect: To the extent that any local government facilities exist that are not exempt from statutory lead standards, expenditures associated with repair and risk reduction work could decrease.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of the Environment, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 14, 1996
ncs

Analysis by: Kim E. Wells
Reviewed by: John Rixey
(410) 841-3710
(301) 858-3710

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst