

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 679 (Senator Collins)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Referred to Environmental Matters

Air Quality - Construction and Modification of Sources

This amended bill eliminates certain requirements for air quality permits if the proposed work is not:

- the construction of a new source;
- replacement work at an existing permitted source that will cost over one-half the amount needed to build a new source comparable to the existing one; or
- a modification of an existing permitted source that will result in a significant net increase in emissions of any pollutant from that source.

The bill also eliminates these requirements for any permit to operate.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Any decrease in workload resulting from this bill would be minimal and would not affect State expenditures. The bill is anticipated to impact only 5-10 applications per year.

Local Effect: Potential minimal decrease in expenditures, as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Expenditures: To the extent that local governments apply for an air quality permit that would be exempted from certain requirements under this legislation, cost savings would

be realized. One of the requirements that is removed is the public hearing component, so local governments would save the cost of advertising for these hearings (a savings of \$400 to \$4,000 per application).

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 22, 1996

ncs

Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 25, 1996

Analysis by: Kim E. Wells

Direct Inquiries to:

Reviewed by: John Rixey

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710