Department of Fiscal Services

Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 911 (Senator Collins) Economic and Environmental Affairs

Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation - Denial, Suspension, or Revocation of Licenses on Conviction of Certain Crimes

This emergency bill allows the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (DLLR) to deny, suspend, or revoke an occupational or professional license if an applicant is convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude. The bill specifies that the following factors must be considered in determining whether to deny, renew, suspend, or revoke a license of such a person: (1) the nature of the crime; (2) the relationship of the crime to the licensed activities; (3) the relevance of the conviction to the fitness of the licensee to perform the activities authorized by the license; (4) other crimes of which the licensee has been convicted; (5) the length of time since the conviction; and (6) the behavior of the licensee before and after the conviction. The bill applies to all licenses issued by DLLR and to all license and renewal applications received by DLLR on or after the effective date of this bill.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal decrease in general fund revenues. Potential minimal increase in general fund expenditures.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None. This bill would not directly affect small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: DLLR advises that there are over 170,000 individuals licensed through the department and these licenses generate over \$7 million as averaged for biennial licensing terms.

State Effect: The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) advises that most

occupational and professional license requirements currently include provisions that licenses or applications may be denied, suspended, or revoked if the licensee or applicant has been convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude. It is assumed that the bill's provisions would affect a limited number of licensees and applicants, and that few licenses or renewals would be denied, revoked, or suspended based on felony and crimes of moral turpitude convictions. As a result, licensing and renewal fees collected and deposited into the State general fund could decrease minimally.

Any costs associated with increased hearings as a result of the bill are assumed to be minimal. The occupational boards without the sanction provisions specified in this bill would not require additional expenditures to review current licensees and new applicants for felony or moral turpitude convictions.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 18, 1997 mld

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