

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 83 (Calvert County Delegation)
Environmental Matters Referred to Economic and Environmental Affairs

**Natural Resources - Authority Over Abandoned Vessels -
Delegation to Local Jurisdictions**

This amended bill provides that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) may only delegate authority for the removal and disposal of abandoned vessels to a local jurisdiction that consents to the delegation.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None, as discussed below.

Local Effect: None, as discussed below.

Small Business Effect: None. Small businesses would not be directly affected.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: DNR previously had an abandoned and derelict boat crew that was abolished as part of the recent departmental reorganization.

State Expenditures: Currently, counties receive grants as needed from the State to remove and dispose of abandoned vehicles in waterways. Approximately \$300,000 was budgeted during fiscal 1997 to cover boat and debris removal, most of which went to counties as grants; this amount has been entirely encumbered. During fiscal 1996, \$600,000 was spent on these projects. DNR advises that this legislation codifies current practice, and therefore these funds would continue.

Local Effect: Local governments would continue to receive State grant funds for these activities if they consent to the delegation of authority.

Information Source(s): Department of Natural Resources, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 20, 1997
mld Revised - House Third Reader - March 14, 1997

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