

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1079 (Eastern Shore Delegation)
Environmental Matters

Kent and Queen Anne's Counties - Stationary Blinds and Blind Sites - Licenses

This bill repeals the requirement that landowners owning the appropriate amount of shoreline in Kent and Queen Anne's counties must apply for a statutory blind or blind site license before August 1 of each year in order to erect and maintain such a site.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal increase in revenues; expenditures would not be affected.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in revenues and expenditures.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal effect on small businesses as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: It is assumed that landowners affected under this bill would still have to apply for and pay for a license. Stationary blind and blind site licenses currently cost \$5.50; these licenses are issued by the clerks of the circuit courts, who retain a \$.50 fee from each license. To the extent that landowners in Kent and Queen Anne's counties with the required amount of shoreline purchase these licenses after the August 1 deadline, and would not have done so absent this bill, State revenues would increase by \$5 per license. Any such impact is expected to be minimal.

Local Effect: Due to the \$.50 fee that is retained by the clerk of the circuit courts, revenues in Kent and Queen Anne's counties would increase to the extent that affected landowners would purchase these licenses after the August 1 deadline. Any such impact is expected to be minimal, and would be offset by any increase in workload due to issuing such licenses.

Small Business Effect: Small businesses owning shoreline in Kent and Queen Anne's County will be able to purchase a blind site or stationary blind license after the current

deadline of August 1. To the extent that such a business was not able to purchase a license by this date but wished to, or decided after this date that it wished to purchase a license, it would be able to.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 11, 1997

ncs

Analysis by: Kim E. Wells-McDonnell

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710