

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 741 (Delegate Arnick)

Environmental Matters

Lead Paint - Exterior Surfaces

This bill expands the definition of “exterior surfaces” under the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to include all painted surfaces in stairways, entrance areas, recreation areas, laundry areas, and garages within a multifamily rental dwelling unit that are common to individual dwelling units and are accessible to children. Risk reduction standards for exterior surfaces are less strict than interior surface standards. The bill repeals the exclusion of a common area which is not part of, or adjoining, a rental dwelling unit within a multifamily rental dwelling for the definition of “rental dwelling unit”.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The requirements of the bill would not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful.

Fiscal Analysis

Small Business Effect: Small business landlords could be impacted in a positive manner. When rental property becomes vacant, lead hazard risk reduction work must be performed and certified prior to the property being rented. There are occasions when the interior surfaces of rental dwelling units are lead-free, but are still subject to lead risk reduction work because the common areas cannot obtain lead-free status. The bill would subject common areas to the standard for exterior surfaces, thereby allowing property owners to obtain lead

free status in a more economical manner and to be exempted from continued risk reduction requirements.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of the Environment, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Community and Public Health Administration), Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

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