

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 613 (Delegate DeCarlo)

Economic Matters

Landlord and Tenant - Lease Applications and Fees

This bill increases from \$25 to \$50 the maximum amount of fees that a landlord can require from a prospective tenant for a lease application. If a landlord requests fees exceeding \$50, the landlord could only retain the portion of the fees actually expended for a credit check or other expenses relating to a lease application. Any portion of these fees not actually expended for these reasons shall be returned by the landlord to the tenant or the landlord shall be liable for twice the amount of the fees in damages.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Assuming that the Consumer Protection Division will receive fewer than 50 complaints per year stemming from this bill, existing resources should be adequate to handle any additional workload.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal impact on small business landlords.

Information Sources: Office of the Attorney General (Consumer Protection Division),
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 23, 1998

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