

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 193 (Senators Haines and Ferguson)

Finance

Highways - Placement of Signs

This bill provides that a permit is not required from the State Highway Administration (SHA) for outdoor signs that: (1) advertise a church or other place of religious worship; (2) advertise a civic or fraternal organization; (3) advertise a political subdivision; and (4) direct motorists to a farm or other location where farmers offer their products for sale. However, these signs must comply with existing safety requirements, local restrictions, and zoning requirements.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal. It is estimated that SHA could experience a \$5,000 annual decrease in revenues as farmers and other organizations will not need to apply for permits to display certain signs. The fee for a permit to display outdoor signs that are placed outside the limits of a municipal corporation and within 500 feet of a State highway is between \$10 and \$35 annually depending upon the size of the sign.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal. Farmers may experience a small decrease in costs as they will not have to pay the annual \$10 to \$35 fee for a permit to display signs along State highways.

Information Source(s): Department of Transportation (State Highway Administration),
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 10, 1998
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