

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 395 (Delegate Heller. *et al.*)

Economic Matters

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**Public Elevators - Elevator Handrails in Health Care Facilities**

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This bill requires handrails to be installed in all new and existing elevators located in a “health care facility” or medical building.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill’s requirements could be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** Potential minimal increase in expenditures. Revenues would not be affected.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal, depending upon the number of small business health care facilities or medical offices with elevators that don’t already have handrails.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Expenditures:** A health care facility is defined as a hospital, nursing home, ambulatory surgical facility, inpatient rehabilitation facility, home health agency, or hospice. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) has 18 elevators in its health care facilities in which handrails would need to be installed. The cost of a set of handrails is \$750. Therefore, the cost to DHMH will total \$13,500. However, the bill’s requirements could be absorbed within existing budgeted resources of each health care facility.

**Local Expenditures:** The bill's requirements could result in a potential minimal increase in expenditures, depending upon the number of local health care facilities with elevators that don't already have handrails.

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**Information Source(s):** Office on Aging; Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (General Services Administration, Office of Planning and Capital Financing); Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 12, 1998  
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