

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 17 (Senator Baker. *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Charitable Solicitations - Professional Solicitors

This bill alters the definition of “professional solicitor” to include a person who, for pay, solicits or receives contributions for an ambulance, fire fighting, fire chiefs, or rescue organization, personally or through an associate solicitor. Under current law, professional solicitors must register with the Secretary of State, submit a \$25,000 surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit, and file certain documentation for each fundraising campaign. The bill specifies that the Charitable Organizations and Charitable Representatives Title of the Business Regulation Article applies to a professional solicitor employed by a volunteer organization of fire fighters or rescue or ambulance personnel.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund revenues would increase by \$300 for each additional professional solicitor registered. The Secretary of State could monitor any new registrants with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: General fund revenues would increase by \$300 annually for each additional professional solicitor registered. At this time, the number of additional professional solicitors that would be registered is unknown, although the Secretary of State’s Charitable Organizations Division advises that it is aware of at least five professional solicitors who would be required to register under the bill. For informational purposes, in 1997, 36 professional solicitors were registered with the Secretary of State.

Information Source(s): Secretary of State (Charitable Organizations Division)

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 22, 1998
Inc Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 24, 1998

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