

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 323 (Senator Harris. *et al.*)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Ambient Air Monitoring Data - Public Access

This bill requires the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to provide public access to all “ambient monitoring data” through the Internet by January 1, 2000 and each year thereafter. The ambient air monitoring data may be in summary form and shall include all validated ambient air monitoring data for the two most recent calendar years for which data are available.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: One-time general fund expenditure increase of up to \$20,000 in FY 2000. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: MDE monitors and maintains data regarding air quality in the State and currently operates a web page on the Internet. The bill requires MDE to make this data available to the public via the Internet. However, MDE advises that it does not have the expertise in-house to design and maintain a link from the air quality database to its existing web page. MDE will need a part-time contractual employee to design and maintain the web site link at a cost of approximately \$10,000 - \$20,000 in fiscal 2000. Future year expenditures are assumed to be minimal as the bulk of the fiscal 2000 expenditures will be on the design of the web link. Future year costs would only be for the periodic update of the web link and it is likely that MDE could perform this task with its existing resources.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of the Environment, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 18, 1999
ncs/jr Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 19, 1999
Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 29, 1999

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