

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 296 (Delegate Nathan-Pulliam. *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

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**Assisted Living Programs - Small Facilities**

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This bill extends, from July 1, 1999, to July 1, 2000, the date before which the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) is prohibited from imposing sanctions on small assisted living programs unless a resident's physical or emotional health has been harmed or is jeopardized. The bill takes effect June 1, 1999.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The prohibition on imposing sanctions would not materially affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Meaningful.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Background:** The assisted living regulations (COMAR 10.07.14) went into effect January 1, 1999.

**Small Business Effect:** There are approximately 4,000 assisted living programs, of which approximately 2,800 have 15 or fewer residents. These small business assisted living programs would be favorably affected by the bill, because some could incur significant costs in attempting to comply with the proposed regulations. These costs include one-time equipment expenses of up to \$1,000 and ongoing annual medication review and training expenses in the range of \$3,000 to \$13,000.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Licensing and

Certification Administration), Department of Human Resources, Department of Aging,  
Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**

First Reader - February 18, 1999

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