

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 1999 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 507 (Delegate Pitkin. *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

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**Child Care Facility - Pesticide Application - Prior Notification**

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This bill requires an owner or operator of a child care facility to post written notification of pesticide application on or adjacent to the exterior of the front door of the child care facility at least 48 hours prior to the application. The notice must include the common name of the pesticide and the date, time, and location of the application. The owner or operator of the facility may authorize pesticide applications only on the dates, in the general location, and using the pesticides specified in the notice. The bill provides that within 24 hours of an emergency pesticide application, the child care facility must post written notification as specified above.

The provisions of the bill do not apply to the outdoor application of pesticides.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Depending on the level of enforcement and number of complaints resulting from the bill, general fund expenditures could increase by up to \$127,100 in FY 2000. Future year expenditures reflect annualization and inflation.

(in dollars)	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
GF Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditures	\$127,100	\$68,800	\$70,900	\$73,100	\$75,500
Net Effect	(\$127,100)	(\$68,800)	(\$70,900)	(\$73,100)	(\$75,500)

*Note: ( ) = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - =indeterminate effect*

**Local Effect:** Minimal increase in local expenditures. No effect on revenues.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Effect:** The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) advises that it would have the responsibility of regulating the State's approximately 14,000 child care facilities to insure the proper application of pesticides. Currently, MDA has 15 employees who regulate the commercial use and application of pesticides. Based on the department's experience in implementing similar legislation affecting approximately 1,300 public schools with its existing resources, the Maryland Department of Agriculture reports that additional resources would be required to handle the potential increase in workload associated with regulating and monitoring 14,000 child care localities.

Depending on the level of any regulatory activity, the Department of Legislative Services advises that general fund expenditures could increase by up to an estimated \$127,142 in fiscal 2000, which accounts for the bill's October 1, 1999 effective date. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring two agricultural inspectors to provide compliance assistance to child care facilities as well as following up on complaints dealing with pesticide applications. It includes salaries, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses including automobiles. Future year expenditures reflect (1) full salaries with 3.5% annual increases and 3% employee turnover; and (2) 1% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

**Local Effect:** Local government-run child care facilities could incur increased costs associated with the notification requirements of the bill. However, these costs are assumed to be minimal.

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**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of Agriculture, Department of Human Resources, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 4, 1999  
ncs/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 29, 1999  
Revised - Updated Information - March 30, 1999

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Analysis by: Mike Sanelli

Direct Inquiries to:  
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510