

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

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 167 (Senator Della)  
Economic and Environmental Affairs

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**Business Occupations and Professions - Continuing Education - Definition of “Clock Hour”**

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This bill provides a definition for the term “clock hour” relating to the continuing education requirements for business occupations and professions. “Clock hour” means a minimum of 50 minutes of actual class time for each 60-minute hour.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill codifies existing practice.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Background:** Current law does not define a classroom hour for the continuing education requirements applied to business occupations and professions. The specific term “clock hour” is only used in Title 17 (Real Estate Brokers) of the Business Occupations and Professions Article. Until recently, the Maryland Real Estate Commission interpreted “clock hour” to mean 60 minutes of class time. The commission has since altered its policy so that 50 minutes of class time constitutes a “clock hour.” Other boards have always interpreted a classroom hour to mean 50 minutes of class time for each 60-minute hour.

**Information Source:** Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation

**Fiscal Note History:**

First Reader - February 8, 1999

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