

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 808 (Delegates Owings and Wood)

Environmental Matters

Local Governments - Mining Operations

This bill authorizes a local government to adopt an ordinance or regulation, consistent with the State regulation of mining, establishing a local mining mediation council to address concerns related to mining. Before adopting an ordinance or regulation, the local government is required to hold a public hearing and provide reasonable notice of the hearing in accordance with local law.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill's requirements would not materially alter State operations or finances.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in local government expenditures.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal impact on small business.

Fiscal Analysis

Small Business Effect: The bill allows local governments to establish a local mining mediation council to address concerns about mining as they relate to public or private nuisance or the interference with the private use or enjoyment of property. To the extent that a mining mediation council is able to resolve disputes related to mining activities in the area before nuisance actions are brought against mining companies, small business mining companies could benefit from spending less money on legal costs.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of the Environment; Allegany, Anne

Arundel and Washington Counties; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History:

First Reader - February 25, 1999

dmm/jr

Analysis by: Mike Sanelli

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 946-5510

(301) 970-5510