

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 238 (Senator Haines)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Plumbers - Exception to License Requirement

This bill broadens the authority of individuals licensed by the State Board of Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration Contractors (HVACR) to provide plumbing services without a plumbing license. Specifically, the bill allows HVACR licensees to install or service a heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, or refrigeration system without a plumbing license if they have completed a training course certifying competence to work on that particular type of system. Under current law, HVACR licensees may service an existing propane gas appliance without a plumbing license if they have completed a manufacturer's training course certifying competence to work on that particular type of appliance.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal decrease in general fund revenue as individuals who currently hold both a plumbing license and an HVACR license no longer find it necessary to get a plumbing license. The fee for a Master Plumber license is \$70. The number of individuals holding both licenses is not known.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal. The majority of HVACR licensees and Master Plumber licensees operate as small businesses. This bill would benefit HVACR licensees by broadening the services that they may perform. Master Plumbers could experience more competition from HVACR contractors in those areas that they are both eligible to practice.

Information Source: Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 26, 1999

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