

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

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 558 (Senator Blount)  
Economic and Environmental Affairs

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**Pilots of Vessels - Special Duty Assignments**

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This bill creates a “special duty license” issued by the State Board of Pilots, and prohibits an individual from providing pilotage for a special duty assignment unless the individual holds a special duty license or certification. A “special duty assignment” includes maneuvering a vessel during a berthing or unberthing operation or shifting a vessel within a port with tug assistance.

The bill specifies the licensing requirements, including the requirement that an applicant must be a full-time docking master who has performed a special duty assignment for at least 500 vessels in the Port of Baltimore from January 1, 1994 to January 1, 1999 and for at least 100 vessels in the port from January 1, 1998 to January 1, 1999. The bill also authorizes certain licensed applicants to be certified by the board to perform pilotage for a special duty assignment if the applicant meets specified training requirements and possesses sufficient ability, skill, and experience for certification. The bill sets a \$300 biannual licensing fee, and specifies the circumstances under which a special duty licensee is eligible for payment as an inactive pilot.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** If all 13 of the harbor pilots currently practicing in Maryland obtain a special duty license and pay the \$300 fee, general fund revenues would increase by \$3,900 in fiscal 2000. Out-year revenue projections reflect biannual licensing and no increase in the number of pilots. Any increased workload incurred by the State Board of Pilots could be handled with existing resources.

(in dollars)	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
GF Revenues	\$3,900	\$0	\$3,900	\$0	\$3,900
GF Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0

Net Effect	\$3,900	\$0	\$3,900	\$0	\$3,900
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*Note: ( ) = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - =indeterminate effect*

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 2, 1999

dmm/jr

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