

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 660 (Delegates Hubbard and Rosenberg)

Environmental Matters

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**Lead Functions - Transfer to Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**

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This bill transfers the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH). It provides for the transfer of lead poisoning staff, the Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund, the Lead Accreditation Fund, and federal funds for the functions of blood lead testing and reporting, lead poisoning prevention and case management, and accreditation of lead abatement services. The provisions of the bill are severable.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2000.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** No net State effect. DHMH's FY 2001 budget would increase by \$3.4 million, while MDE's FY 2001 budget would decrease by an equal amount.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** MDE administers the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. The program provides regulatory oversight functions such as enforcement, accreditation, childhood lead registry, rental property registry, and education outreach relating to lead paint and lead paint hazards in residential housing.

**State Fiscal Effect:** DHMH's fiscal 2001 budget would increase by an estimated \$3.4 million (\$0.5 million in general funds; \$1.7 million in special funds; and \$1.2 million in

federal funds), while MDE's fiscal 2001 budget would decrease by an equal amount. This estimate includes salaries and fringe benefits for 23 permanent and three contractual positions and ongoing operating expenses. It reflects (1) the bill's July 1, 2000, effective date; and (2) the Governor's proposed fiscal 2001 budget.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** The Environmental Matters Committee held a hearing on substantially similar legislation in the 1996 session (HB 85), but the bill was withdrawn.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of the Environment, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 18, 2000  
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