

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 303 (Delegate Frush)  
Environmental Matters

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**Occupational Safety and Health Standards - Emergency Regulations - Smoking in Bars**

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This bill repeals the exemption to occupational health and safety standards that allow the smoking of tobacco products in bars, taverns, or clubs, including bars in hotels, motels, and restaurants. Smoking would only be permitted in establishments that have a separate, enclosed area that does not exceed 40% of the area of the restaurant. Currently, bars and establishments with bar areas are exempt from the ban on indoor smoking of tobacco products.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill would not materially affect State operations or finances. Enforcement activities could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful. To the extent that establishments do not have separate enclosed areas for smoking and choose to construct such an area, they will incur increased expenditures, which could be significant. However, there will be other establishments that can comply with the bill's requirements without incurring additional expenditures. Any effect the bill might have on any given establishment's customer base cannot be reliably predicted.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Comptroller of the Treasury (Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division); Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 28, 2000  
nlr/jr

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