

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 135 (Delegates Owings and Stern)

Environmental Matters

Health - Sale or Possession of Methyl Methacrylate Liquid Monomer - Prohibition

This bill prohibits a person from selling methyl methacrylate liquid monomer (MMA) to a beauty salon. Violators are guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a maximum fine of \$1,000 for each violation.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal increase in general fund revenues due to the bill's penalty provision. No effect on expenditures.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: As of July 1, 1999, a person is prohibited from using or possessing methyl methacrylate liquid monomer (MMA) in a beauty salon. Provisions for inspections, sampling, chemical tests, and penalties are also outlined in current statute.

Background: MMA, a toxic chemical, is used by some nail technicians to apply artificial nails. In 1999, the Maryland Board of Cosmetology reported that MMA was still being imported illegally even though it was found unacceptable for use on fingernails by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 1974. MMA has been placed on the hazardous substance list by the Occupation Safety and Health Agency, the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, Inc., and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Beauty salons in Maryland are prohibited from using or possessing MMA (Chapter 388 of 1999).

State Fiscal Effect: General fund revenues could increase minimally under the bill's monetary penalty provision for those cases heard in the District Court.

Small Business Effect: A major portion of beauty supply outlet store business is from the approximately 4,100 salons in Maryland, which are prohibited from using or possessing MMA. The most recent data on the beauty supply industry is in the 1997 Census of Retail Trade for Maryland. It lists a combined total of 213 beauty supply, cosmetic, and perfume stores statewide, many of which are small retail stores. This bill should not impact the beauty supply outlet industry in Maryland due to the 1999 prohibition and associated penalties. It is unlikely that beauty supply businesses would find it profitable to stock or offer to sell products containing MMA to beauty salons.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; 1997 Census of Retail Trade for Maryland; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 31, 2000
mld/jr Revised - Enrolled Bill - May 2, 2000

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