

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 356 (Senator Baker)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Queen Anne's County - Shooting Ranges - Sound Level Limits and Noise Control Regulations

This bill provides that sound level limits set by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) may not prohibit trapshooting or other target shooting on a range or property in Queen Anne's County that has been approved by the county commissioners as a place for those sporting events.

The bill is effective July 1, 2000.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Any additional review of target shooting zoning could be handled with the existing resources of the County Commissioners of Queen Anne's County.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful.

Analysis

Current Law: MDE sets environmental noise standards based on information from the Environmental Protection Agency and scientific information about characteristics of noise that may harm public health or safety. Frederick is the only county that has the authority to override State sound level limits specifically for areas utilized for trapshooting and other target shooting.

Small Business Effect: If the County Commissioners of Queen Anne's County approve the utilization of a range or property for the purpose of target shooting, it would be exempt from

State noise control standards. Shooting clubs or ranges that are small businesses could benefit from reduced sound-proofing costs.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of the Environment, Queen Anne's County, Department of Legislative Services

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cm/jr

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