

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 257 (Senators Dvson and Hollinger)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

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**Business Regulation - Industrial Hygiene Services**

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This bill requires that individuals or businesses representing themselves as certified industrial hygienists to be certified by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene or an equivalent organization.

This bill states that the General Assembly's intent is to provide legal recognition to the industrial hygiene profession.

Any individual or business that represents itself as a provider of industrial hygiene services but does not have the proper certification as specified by the bill is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a maximum fine of \$1,000.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Potential minimal increase in general fund revenue due to the bill's penalty provision. No effect on expenditures.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Industrial hygienists are not under any State regulatory authority nor are there any State designations for the profession.

**Background:** There are 25 industrial hygienists working for the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation. The number working in the private sector is difficult to estimate since there are no registration or licensing requirements, but it is assumed to be minimal.

**Small Business Effect:** Some small businesses may have to reclassify their employees or take steps to ensure that their employees meet the qualifications of their titles, either by requiring certification or hiring new employees. Some self-employed industrial hygienists may incur additional training and educational costs.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** Identical legislation was introduced as SB 338 and HB 331 in 1999. SB 338 passed the Senate but received an unfavorable report from the House Economic Matters Committee. HB 331 also received an unfavorable report from the House Economic Matters Committee. Identical legislation was introduced as SB 437 and HB 325 in 1998. SB 437 passed the Senate but received an unfavorable report from the House Economic Matters Committee and HB 325 was withdrawn.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 22, 2000  
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Analysis by: Brian D. Baugus

Direct Inquiries to:  
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510