

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 299 (Chairman, Ways and Means Committee)

Ways and Means

Maryland Horse Industry Board - Sunset Extension and Program Evaluation

This bill extends the sunset date for provisions of the Agriculture Article related to the Maryland Horse Industry Board from July 1, 2001, to July 1, 2006 and requires an evaluation of the board on or before July 1, 2005. The bill also requires the board to include information regarding staff needs, the structure of its fees, and a long-term financing mechanism in its September 30, 2001, report to the General Assembly required under current law.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: State revenues and expenditures would be maintained because the bill proposes to continue the Maryland Horse Industry Board beyond FY 2001. The FY 2001 budget assumes approximately \$25,000 in general fund revenues for the board and includes \$123,796 in general fund expenditures for the board. Out-year revenues and expenditures are expected to remain relatively constant. The board can handle the bill's expanded reporting requirements with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Maryland Horse Industry Board sunsets on July 1, 2001. Under the Program Evaluation Act, an evaluation of the board must be made on or before July 1, 2000. Pursuant to that requirement, Legislative Services evaluated the board in a report published in October 1999. Chapter 416 of 1998 requires the board to report to specified committees of

the General Assembly by September 30, 2001, regarding its activities, revenues, and expenditures.

Background: The Maryland Horse Industry Board licenses and inspects horse riding facilities annually. Its mission is to ensure, as much as possible, the safety of the public and the welfare of the horses at licensed stables. In 1999, the board issued 358 licenses and performed 370 inspections.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 369 (Chairman, Finance Committee) - Finance.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Agriculture, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 21, 2000
mld/jr Revised - Updated Budget Information - May 17, 2000

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