

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 570

(Delegates Petzold and Frush)

Environmental Matters

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**Tobacco Products - Restrictions on Display or Storage**

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This bill prohibits sellers or distributors of tobacco products for commercial purposes from displaying or storing tobacco products in any place that is accessible to a purchaser without intervention of the seller or an employee of the seller. The bill also provides that if a county law is more restrictive, the county law controls.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill would not materially affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful. Tobacco manufacturers and wholesalers have in the past provided incentives and discounts to retailers based on the location and display of their products. Depending on the nature and size of any current incentive or discount for a small business, there could be a loss of revenue or net profit due to the increased costs to the business owner and/or reduced sales.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** None applicable.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Comptroller of the Treasury (Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division); Kent, Montgomery, Prince George's, Washington, and Worcester counties; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – March 4, 2001  
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