

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 800

(Senator Ruben)

Judicial Proceedings

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**Tobacco Product Vending Machines - Conversion or Removal for Scrap**

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This bill provides that tobacco product vending machines that are in violation of current law requirements may be converted to dispense other services or products if the conversion is made prior to July 1, 2001 or they may be removed and scrapped by the Comptroller of the Treasury. Owners or operators of scrapped tobacco product vending machines may not be reimbursed for the value of the machines.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2001.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Potential minimal increase in general fund expenditures associated with removing and destroying tobacco vending machines.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Chapter 247 of 2000 prohibits the sale of tobacco products through a vending machine unless the vending machine: (1) is located in an establishment that minors are prohibited by law from entering or an establishment that is a bona fide fraternal or veterans organization; or (2) can only be operated with a token, card, or similar device that an individual can only obtain or purchase from the owner or an employee or agent of the owner.

**State Fiscal Effect:** According to the Comptroller's Office, there are more than 1,300 tobacco vending machines in the State. It is not known how many are not in compliance with Chapter 247 of 2000. As a result, it is not known how many machines would be confiscated and destroyed pursuant to the bill, although the number is assumed to be minimal. The Comptroller advises that any increased expenditures associated with the bill would be less than \$3,000 and could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Comptroller of the Treasury (Field Enforcement Division), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – March 4, 2001  
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Analysis by: Michael Sanelli

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