

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 762

(Senator Mitchell)

Judicial Proceedings

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**Public Facilities - Refusal of Services - Prohibition**

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This bill prohibits owners or operators of certain facilities open to the public from refusing to serve an individual solely on the basis of the individual's mode of transportation, hairstyle, or style of dress. The prohibition does not apply when the individual's clothing contains profanity or obscenity or fits the individual in a way that is indecent or constitutes a health hazard to the premises of the owner. The bill also provides that an owner is liable in a civil action to a complainant for an amount ranging from \$500 to \$2,500, depending on the number of times the owner has previously violated the requirements of the bill.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Assuming that the Consumer Protection Division receives fewer than 50 complaints per year stemming from this bill, any additional workload could be handled with existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** None applicable.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** A substantially similar bill, SB 278, was introduced in the 1996 session and failed on third reading in the Senate.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Office of the Attorney General, Human Relations Commission, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – March 12, 2001  
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