

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Revised

House Bill 205 (Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee)
(Departmental – State Police)

Environmental Matters

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Fires and Investigations - Mutual Aid Agreements - Clarification

This departmental bill alters the definition of the term “fire, rescue, or emergency services entity,” under provisions applicable to mutual aid agreements between or among fire companies or rescue companies, by specifying that an “emergency medical services unit” includes an entity providing services at any level. These terms replace specified individual references to boards of fire commissioners, fire companies, rescue squads, governmental subdivisions, or fire departments, or the ambulance or advanced life support work of such units.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill clarifies current law.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of State Police has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Analysis

Current Law: In Article 38A, a “mutual aid agreement” means an agreement to establish and carry out a plan to assist in fire fighting and preserving life and property in Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, or Pennsylvania

by providing fire fighting, rescue or emergency medical equipment, personnel, and services.

Background: A Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland is expected to be introduced during the 2003 session. The changes to Article 38A in this bill were recommended by the Public Safety Article Review Committee in order to update certain sections of Article 38A prior to the adoption of the new article, and to make the various sections uniform in language.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – January 24, 2001
jm/jr Revised – House Third Reader – March 26, 2001

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