

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 210

(Delegate Morhaim, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Health - Blood Donation - Minors

This bill provides that a minor who is at least 16 years old may donate blood after obtaining a parent's or legal guardian's consent. Consent may be given by telephone or electronic means. The bill also clarifies that a minor who is at least 17 years old may donate blood without the consent of a legal guardian.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The change would not directly affect government operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A minor at least 17 years old may give blood without a parent's consent to a voluntary program that does not pay for the donation. The American Association of Blood Banks or the American Red Cross must approve the program.

Background: The American Red Cross counted 1,323 blood donors who were 17 years old and gave blood during fiscal 2001 in the nonprofit's Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Region. The region covers most of Maryland, except the Eastern Shore, and a few counties in Pennsylvania and northern Virginia.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 5, 2002
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