

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1432
Economic Matters

(Delegates Eckardt and Donoghue)

Board of Boiler Rules - Membership

This bill adds two new members to the State Board of Boiler Rules -- 1 representative of the antique boiler industry and 1 member of the model boiler industry -- and provides that the Governor shall appoint 10 of the 11 members.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any increase in expenditures resulting from two additional members could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Board of Boiler Rules advises State regulators on the construction, operation, installation, maintenance, repair, and inspection of boilers. The board currently consists of nine members, eight of whom are appointed by the Governor, who represent owners, users, manufacturers, assemblers, insurers, engineers, and consumers of various types of boilers.

Safety inspectors employed by the State, as well as the insurance industry, verify that boilers have been installed and are being maintained in compliance with regulations.

Background: In July 2001, an antique boiler that powered a steam tractor exploded at a county fair in Medina, Ohio killing four people. Antique and model boilers, because they are operated less frequently and may be significantly altered from their original condition, present different concerns for regulation and safe operation than commercial/industrial boilers that are routinely inspected and maintained, and continuously operated.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 12, 2002
ncs/jr

Analysis by: Mitchell J. McCalmon

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