

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 497
Judiciary

(Delegate Menes, *et al.*)

Gun Shops - Property Restrictions

This bill prohibits the Secretary of State Police from issuing a regulated firearms dealer's license to a person whose place of business abuts or is adjacent to property that is within 500 feet of property used for residential purposes. The bill provides that this prohibition does not apply to a place of business existing on October 1, 2002 as long as that dealer holds a license. However, the prohibition applies to nonconforming places of business after the existing licensee no longer holds the license.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Enforcement of the bill's provisions could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None. Enforcement of the bill's provisions could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful. However, while it is not known how many businesses or potential businesses could eventually be affected by this bill, that number is assumed to be small.

Analysis

Current Law: A person is prohibited from engaging in the business of selling, renting, or transferring regulated firearms unless lawfully possessing and conspicuously displaying at the place of business, in addition to any other license required by law, a regulated firearms dealer's license issued by the Secretary. The license must identify the

licensee and the location of the licensee's place of business. One such license must be required for each place of business where regulated firearms are sold.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 368 (Senator Dorman) – Judicial Proceedings.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 8, 2002
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