

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 617

(Senator Hoffman, *et al.*)

Finance

Environmental Matters

Maryland Youth Camps - Days of Operation and Regulations

This bill increases the number of residential camps regulated by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) by altering the definition of a residential camp. The minimum number of days a camp operates is changed from 7 consecutive 24-hour days to 5 consecutive days. The bill also requires DHMH to adopt regulations regarding the minimum standards for supervising campers during routine activities. DHMH may not adopt regulations that set ratios for campers to medical staff except for: (1) camp health supervisors at a camp where 50% or more of the campers have identified medical problems; (2) personnel required to meet emergency safety standards; and (3) camp health supervisors, or their designees, trained to administer medicine to campers.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund licensing fee revenues are expected to increase by \$10,000 annually beginning in FY 2003. General fund expenditures could increase by an estimated \$66,300 in FY 2003 for increased inspection activities. Future year expenditure estimates reflect annualization and inflation.

(in dollars)	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
GF Revenue	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
GF Expenditure	66,300	55,400	57,800	60,300	63,100
Net Effect	(\$56,300)	(\$45,400)	(\$47,800)	(\$50,300)	(\$53,100)

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A residential camp means a youth camp operating at a facility or campsite at which a camper either lives apart or intends to live apart from the camper's relatives, parents, or guardians for at least 7 consecutive 24-hour days. There are not any minimum staff-to-camper ratios for medical staff or minimum standards for supervising campers during routine camp activities.

State Revenues: General fund revenues could increase by an estimated \$10,000 in fiscal 2003. This estimate reflects the licensure of 100 additional camps at a fee of \$100 per camp per year. Out-year revenues are anticipated to remain constant.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures could increase by an estimated \$66,253 in fiscal 2003, which accounts for a 90-day start-up delay. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one temporary contractual sanitarian and one full-time sanitarian to perform inspections at the 100 new camps. It includes salaries, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses, including a laptop and certain field equipment for both sanitarians, and a State-owned automobile for the full-time sanitarian.

Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$39,294
State-owned Vehicle	16,791
Other Operating Expenses	<u>10,168</u>
Total FY 2003 State Expenditures	\$66,253

Future year expenditures reflect: (1) full salaries with 3.5% annual increases and 3% employee turnover; and (2) 1% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: A similar bill, SB 62, was introduced in the 2001 session and received an unfavorable report in the Senate Finance Committee. Another similar bill, HB 662, was introduced in the 1998 session and received an unfavorable report from the House Environmental Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

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

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