

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 677 (Delegates Benson and Hubbard)
Environmental Matters

Pesticide Applicator's Law - Required Disclosure of Financing Arrangements

This bill requires a licensed pest control firm to provide a customer with specified financing information if payment of the pest control contract is financed through an installment sales agreement. The following information is required: the name of the sales finance company, if any, extending credit to the customer, and the disclosure required in installment sales agreements under Section 12-606 of the Commercial Law Article. That section requires that an installment sale agreement state the names and addresses of the parties to the agreement, state the date when signed by the buyer, contain a clear description of the goods, include a statement as to price, include a statement as to any collateral security taken, and contain a specified notice to the buyer.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill would not significantly affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill would not directly affect local operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Each place of business conducting pest control must obtain an annual license from the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). When a pesticide is applied, or at the time a customer enters into a contract with a pest control licensee, the licensee must provide the customer with written information including the name of the licensee, the Maryland pesticide business license number, the telephone number of the

licensee, the common name of the pesticide or active ingredient applied, safety information, the Maryland Poison Control telephone number, and any other information required by MDA.

Background: According to MDA, of the 1,500 licensed pest control firms in the State, an estimated 250 firms use financing agreements.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Agriculture, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 20, 2003
mdf/jr

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