

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 107

(Chairman, Finance Committee)

(By Request – Departmental – Comptroller)

Finance

Economic Matters

Business Regulation - Refueling Service - Drivers with Disabilities

This departmental bill requires gas stations to post signs advising disabled customers on how they can receive full service. Disabled drivers are required to present a valid disabled person's registration plate or parking permit to receive full-service gas at self-service prices. Stations that have only one employee per shift, regardless of whether the station offers full- and self-service prices, are exempt.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill pertains exclusively to private sector activity.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Comptroller's Office has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment. Businesses will be required to incur minimal expenses to purchase and affix signs.

Analysis

Current Law: Service stations that reduce the price charged for motor fuel to self-service customers must provide fueling service to disabled drivers at that lower price if the driver provides a disabled person's registration plate or parking permit issued by the Motor Vehicle Administration.

Service stations that are convenience stores, provide fuel through remotely controlled equipment, and do not provide full-service gasoline are exempt. Nonconvenience store service stations that do not provide full-service gasoline, only have one employee on duty, and have remotely controlled dispensing equipment are also exempt.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 29, 2003
ncs/jr

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