

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 419
Economic Matters

(Delegate Minnick, *et al.*)

**Transportation - Pilots and Docking Masters and the Joint Committee on the
Port of Baltimore**

This bill transfers the State Board of Pilots and the State Board of Docking Masters from the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (DLLR) to the Maryland Port Administration in the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). It also repeals the Joint Committee on the Port of Baltimore.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: This bill would transfer \$27,400 in general fund revenues and \$15,900 in general fund expenditures from DLLR to MDOT in FY 2004. This reflects the bill's October 1, 2003 effective date.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Bay pilots and docking masters are regulated and licensed by DLLR.

The State Board of Pilots licenses and regulates pilots who pilot vessels on the navigable waters of the State. Licensure requires payment of a fee, and specified education and continuing education requirements. The board also regulates an apprenticeship pilot program.

The State Board of Docking Masters licenses and regulates pilots who are responsible for docking vessels in Maryland harbors. Ships are transferred from bay pilots to docking masters upon entrance to Baltimore's harbor.

State Fiscal Effect: There are currently ten licensed docking masters. Each pays a \$600 biennial fee. Fees are due next in fiscal 2005. The board has budgeted \$21,000 for expenditures in fiscal 2004. Three-quarters of this expenditure (\$15,750) will be transferred to MDOT because of this bill's October 1, 2003 effective date.

There are currently 60 licensed bay pilots. DLLR indicates that not all of the pilots are licensed as full bay pilots, and do not all pay the same licensure fee. Total revenues for the board in fiscal 2004 are estimated at \$36,850. Three-quarters of this revenue (\$27,368) will be transferred to MDOT because of this bill's October 1, 2003 effective date. The fiscal 2004 allowance is \$197. Three-quarters of this expenditure (\$148) will be transferred to MDOT because of this bill's October 1, 2003 effective date.

The bay pilot licensure cycle will provide revenues in even-numbered out-years and the docking master licensure cycle will provide revenues in odd-numbered out-years. Out-year expenditures will remain constant for bay pilots for mailing licensure forms and minimal administrative support. Out-year expenditures for docking masters, a newer board, will likely decline gradually in the out-years as a body of regulation is built and the board maintains primarily administrative and licensure functions.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 10, 2003
ncs/jr

Analysis by: Daniel P. Tompkins

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510