

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 116

(Senator Kelley, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Environmental Matters

Environment - Applications for Licenses or Permits

This bill authorizes the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), when making a decision to issue a license or permit or to impose a condition on the issuance of a license or permit, to consider whether the applicant has violated any provision of the Environment Article or any regulation adopted under that article.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's changes could be handled with existing budgeted resources. Any decrease in special fund revenues through lost permitting fees is expected to be minimal.

Local Effect: Minimal.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: MDE issues several approvals, permits, licenses, certifications, registrations, and authorizations. Before any license or permit may be renewed, the issuing authority must verify that the applicant has paid all undisputed taxes and unemployment insurance contributions. Although statute does not explicitly authorize MDE to consider violations of all environmental laws, MDE does perform compliance checks within, but not across, MDE's various permitting administrations.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar legislation was introduced during the 1996 session as SB 223. The bill passed the Senate with amendments but received an unfavorable report from the House Environmental Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of the Environment, Office of Administrative Hearings, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 29, 2004
lc/ljm Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 22, 2004

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