

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 247 (Delegate Costa)  
Health and Government Operations

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Assisted Living Programs - Emergency Back-Up Generator

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This bill requires an assisted living program that provides services to six or more individuals to have an emergency back-up generator in working condition on the premises.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill would not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Moderate. Depending on the facility's size and other requirements, the average cost of an installed emergency generator ranges between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** None applicable.

**Background:** The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) reports that there may be 555 licensed assisted living facility programs affected by this bill. According to DHMH, emergency generators cost between \$5,000 and \$10,000 each installed. The generator's cost is dependent on wattage requirements and the systems supported by the generator.

The Department of Human Resources (DHR) reports that there are approximately 10 assisted living homes out of 300 statewide in its Certified Adult Residential Care

Program (Project Home) that would be affected by this bill. Almost all Project Home providers care for one to three residents in the assisted living home. DHR advises that Project Home providers affected by this bill could transfer one or more of their residents to another assisted living home in order to have fewer than six residents and avoid the bill's requirement. DHR states that assisted living homes are unlikely to already have emergency generators.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Human Resources, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Aging, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 4, 2004  
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