

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1359

(Delegate Jennings, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Task Force on Residential Aboveground Oil Tanks in Flood Areas

This bill establishes a Task Force on Residential Aboveground Oil Tanks in Flood Areas. The task force must review national and State building, fire, and safety codes related to the construction, installation, and maintenance of residential aboveground oil tanks and make recommendations for a statewide standard for the installation and maintenance of tanks located in flood areas. The task force must report its preliminary findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2005; final findings and recommendations are due by October 1, 2005. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) must provide staff for the task force.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2004 and sunsets October 31, 2005.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any expense reimbursements for task force members and staffing costs for MDE are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: MDE's Oil Control Program regulates all oil-related activities, such as aboveground and underground oil storage facilities, oil-contaminated soil treatment facilities, and oil transportation. The program oversees the installation, maintenance, operation, and removal of oil storage tanks. An oil operations permit is required for

anyone who stores more than 10,000 gallons of oil in aboveground tanks, transports oil, or operates oil transfer facilities. Storage facilities at single-family residences are exempt from the permitting requirements but are subject to requirements relating to the reporting of oil spills or discharges and the removal of any oil discharge or threat of discharge.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 21, 2004
mh/ljm Revised - House Third Reader - March 30, 2004

Analysis by: Lesley Cook

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