

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 756

(Delegate Beitzel)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs

Garrett County - Public Local Laws - Obsolete Provisions - Repeal

This bill repeals obsolete provisions from the Garrett County Public Local Laws relating to auctions, hogs, marriage ceremonies, motion picture exhibitions, emergency ambulance services, and snowmobiles.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. Repealing obsolete laws would not affect Garrett County finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill repeals the following obsolete laws.

- An auctioneer must purchase a license from the Garrett County Circuit Court Clerk for the privilege of auctioning goods in the county. Moreover, an auctioneer (who auctions livestock, farm products, or other personal property) must furnish a bond with cash or corporate surety. No vendor coming into the county from another county or state by truck may sell any goods without purchasing a special license for that purpose. The law provides for penalties for violators.
- A person cannot allow a hog to run at large. An individual may impound a roaming hog, and he/she must notify the owner of the hog (if known). The hog's owner may claim and remove the animal by paying \$1 for each impounded hog as

well as the cost of feeding it. Statute provides for notification procedure in the event that the hog's owner is unknown. The law does not apply to hogs turned out and herded as long as they do not come within 20 rods (330 feet) of an enclosure.

- A minister (or another person authorized to perform a marriage ceremony) may not pay an individual to recommend the minister to a couple contemplating marriage. A violator is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine between \$10 and \$50.
- Motion pictures cannot be shown before 2 p.m. on Sundays. The penalties associated with this prohibition were repealed by the General Assembly in 1992.
- If a person or business providing emergency ambulance service cannot recover the costs of providing this service from an individual for a certified emergency, the Garrett County Commissioners must pay reasonable compensation to the ambulance service. This may only be done after the person or business providing the ambulance service makes a diligent effort to collect the costs for 60 days.
- In order for the Department of Natural Resources to connect two sections of snowmobile trail on Meadow Mountain, the Garrett County Commissioners must allow snowmobiles to use certain county roads from November 15 through April 1 each year.

Background: Chapter 56 of 2004 repealed a number of obsolete provisions from the Garrett County Public Local Laws relating to appliance installers, billiard rooms and bowling alleys, crimes and punishments, firearms, manufacturers and miners, teachers' pensions, the poor or insane, the sheriff, thistles, and wages.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Garrett County, Department of Legislative Services

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ncs/hlb

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