

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 652

(Chair, Economic Matters Committee)(By Request -
Departmental - Comptroller)

Economic Matters

**Gasohol and Gasoline Products Marketing Act - Exclusion of Independent
Jobbers - Repeal**

This departmental bill repeals the exclusion of independent jobbers from the Maryland Gasohol and Gasoline Products Marketing Act (the "Act").

The bill takes effect June 1, 2009

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not directly affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect local finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: The Comptroller's Office has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law: A distributor who sets the retail price of gasoline through controlled outlets must provide those controlled outlets with gasoline products at a wholesale price of at least 4 cents per gallon lower than the lowest price posted for each grade of gasoline posted at any controlled outlet. Farm cooperatives and "independent jobbers," defined as individuals or corporations who purchase gasohol or gasoline products from wholesalers for resale to dealers, are both excluded from the provisions of the Act.

Background: The Maryland Gasohol and Gasoline Products Marketing Act, created in response to the oil crises of the 1970s, defines the relationships and responsibilities of the parties to certain agreements pertaining to petroleum product marketing arrangements. A person who violates a provision of the Act is liable for damages caused by the violation and is subject to any other legal or equitable remedies available to the party injured by the violation.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 25, 2009
mlm/ljm

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Gasohol and Gasoline Products Marketing Act – Exclusion of Independent Jobbers - Repeal

BILL NUMBER: HB 652

PREPARED BY: Comptroller of Maryland

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESS

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

The proposed legislation will have no impact on small business in Maryland.