

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 1317

(Delegate Smith)

Economic Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Barbers - Employment of Apprentice Barbers - Alterations

This bill increases the number of apprentice barbers that a barbershop may employ at the same time per master barber, from one to three, and removes the overall three-apprentice limit.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State finances or operations. The bill is not expected to substantively increase the number of apprentice barbers in the State.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful.

Analysis

Current Law: A barbershop may not employ more than one apprentice barber per master barber and may not employ more than three apprentices in total.

The State Board of Barbers issues barber and barber-stylist (limited) licenses. The barber license encompasses the full scope of barbering, while the barber-stylist license applies solely to the hair portion of barbering. The board also registers apprentices. Applicants for licensure must pass a written and a practical exam and meet specified experience (apprenticeship) or education (specified hours of instruction at an approved barber school) requirements. A registered apprentice must complete at least 2,250 hours of supervised work as an apprentice within two years prior to applying for a license.

Chapter 251 of 2019 similarly authorized up to three students enrolled in public school barbering courses to work in a barbershop under the supervision of each licensed master barber, instead of just one student.

Small Business Effect: Barbershops are generally small businesses. Under the bill, a barbershop may potentially hire more apprentices, depending on how many master barbers work at a particular barbershop. Conversely, fewer apprentices may be available for other locations.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 1041 of 2020 passed the House and was referred to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee; no further action was taken.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Labor; Department of Legislative Services

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