

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Enrolled - Revised

House Bill 242

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

Economic Matters

Education, Energy, and the Environment

State Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board - Sunset Extension

This departmental bill extends the termination date for the State Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board within the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL) by three years, to July 1, 2027, subject to the evaluation and reestablishment provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (MPEA). MDL must submit a report by July 1, 2025, to the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) with information regarding the State Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board as determined by JAEC. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2024.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund revenues and expenditures for the board are maintained through FY 2027. Otherwise, the bill’s reporting requirement can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: MDL has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Analysis

Current Law/Background: An “amusement ride” is defined as a device intended to give amusement, excitement, pleasure, or thrills to passengers whom the device carries along or around a fixed or restricted course or within a defined area.

The State Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board is responsible for advising and consulting with the Commissioner of Labor and Industry on amusement ride safety regulations. The board holds hearings to receive public comment and information on which to base recommendations to the commissioner.

Maryland Program Evaluation Act

The board is one of approximately 60 regulatory entities and activities subject to termination unless reauthorized periodically through statute. Under MPEA, these entities may also be subject to an evaluation by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA) within DLS prior to their termination. However, OPEGA may conduct an evaluation only if directed by specified entities or by legislation. The board is scheduled to terminate July 1, 2024; OPEGA was not asked to conduct an evaluation prior to its termination. Accordingly, the board has requested reauthorizing legislation.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 15, 2024
rh/mcr Third Reader - March 15, 2024
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 15, 2024
Enrolled - April 29, 2024
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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: State Amusement Ride Safety Advisory Board - Sunset
Extension

BILL NUMBER: HB0242

PREPARED BY: Devki Virk, Commissioner Labor & Industry

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

 X WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON
MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

OR

 WILL HAVE A MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON
MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

N/A