

STATE OF MARYLAND
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
Shari T. Wilson, Secretary

BILL NO: HB 1416

COMMITTEE: Environmental Matters

POSITION: Support

TITLE: Small Business Pollution Compliance Loan Fund -
Repeal

BILL ANALYSIS: This bill eliminates the Small Business Pollution Compliance Loan Fund Program created under Title 2, Subtitle 8 of the Environment Article by repealing the entire subtitle. This revolving loan fund was created by the Legislature in 1998 to assist small businesses with the costs associated with installation of pollution control or other equipment and implementation of measures necessary to comply with air pollution control regulatory requirements. The bill also provides for reversion to the General Fund of any remaining balance in the Fund upon the bill's effective date. It further requires the Department of Environment to collect and hold any loan repayments on outstanding loans received following repeal of the subtitle for reversion to the General Fund during the annual fiscal year end close out process.

POSITION AND RATIONALE: This loan program is supported almost entirely by General Funds, which are no longer available. This program was created by the General Assembly in 1998. Despite outreach efforts, the Department has made only one loan from the Fund since the inception of the program. That loan is scheduled to be repaid in full in February of 2010.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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