

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 477 (Delegate Arnick)

Commerce and Government Matters

Elections - Candidates - Active Campaigning

This bill requires that a certificate of candidacy for the year 2000 be accompanied by a sworn "serious candidate" affidavit indicating that a candidate will actively campaign for at least 7 days. The State Board of Elections is authorized to grant an exemption to this requirement. A candidate who fails to file the required affidavit is required to pay a \$500 fee.

The bill is effective January 1, 2000 and sunsets on December 31, 2000.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal revenue increase. No effect on expenditures.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: Candidates are required to file a certificate of candidacy in 2000 for: (1) U.S. House of Representatives; (2) U.S. Senate; (3) U.S. President; (4) judge of a county circuit court; and (5) delegate to a presidential national convention. State general fund revenues would increase by \$500 for each candidate who fails to file a "serious candidate" affidavit. The number of candidates who would fail to file the affidavit cannot be determined at this time but is assumed to be minimal.

Information Source(s): State Board of Elections, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History:

First Reader - February 17, 1999

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