

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2005 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

Senate Bill 186 (Chairman, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee)  
(By Request – Departmental – Secretary of State)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs                      Health and Government Operations

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**State Government - International and Interstate Compacts and Agreements -  
Filing and Publication**

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This departmental bill requires that an international or interstate agreement or compact be published in the Maryland Register by the Division of State Documents (DSD) in the Office of the Secretary of State. The bill also authorizes DSD to deliver a copy of the agreement to the State Archives. Any agreement and compact within the Annotated Code is exempt from the publication requirement.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. Any additional publication expenses could be absorbed within existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

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

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Interstate agreements and compacts are required to be filed with the Office of the Secretary of State, but there is no publication requirement of these agreements.

**State Fiscal Effect:** In recent months the Secretary of State received an inquiry as to whether a particular interstate compact from 30 years ago had been filed as required by law. The Secretary of State believes that a publication requirement for international and interstate compacts will create a means to easily research and prove whether a compact was filed, even many years after the actual filing.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None

**Information Source(s):** Secretary of State, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 8, 2005  
ncs/hlb Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 23, 2005

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