

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 839
Rules

(Senator Klausmeier, *et al.*)

General Assembly and Department of Legislative Services - Reduction in Paper
Use

This bill requires the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) to study issues concerning the amount of paper used by the General Assembly and the Department of Legislative Services (DLS). LPC must determine how the amount of paper used can be reduced by 80% by the beginning of 2018 through changes in (1) the rules of both houses; (2) the procedures of the standing committees of both houses; and (3) laws governing the procedures of the General Assembly or DLS. LPC must prepare for introduction or consideration by the General Assembly in the 2016 session any bill or rule change necessary to reduce the use of paper.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: LPC can comply with the bill's requirements using existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Background: DLS continues to evaluate paper usage and printing practices, and, over the past 15 years, has been successful in reducing paper usage by minimizing printing when possible. DLS also recycles approximately 100 tons of paper per year and purchases recycled paper in order to minimize the impact on the environment.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

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ncs/lgc

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