

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 45 (Chair, Judiciary Committee)(By Request - Maryland
Judicial Conference)

Judiciary and Health and Government
Operations

Judicial Proceedings

Maryland Register - Publication of Court Documents - Exception

This bill provides an exception to the requirement that specified court documents be published in the *Maryland Register* if the documents are posted promptly on the website of the Maryland Judiciary.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any change in State activities will not materially affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary/Current Law: The Division of State Documents must publish, in an issue of the *Maryland Register*, the text of specified legislative documents, court documents, and Executive Branch documents that are submitted to the division. The following court documents, currently required to be published, would be subject to the exception provided by this bill:

- each proposed rule of court that the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals directs to be published;
- each rule of court that the Court of Appeals adopts or permits to be adopted;

- the hearing calendar of the Court of Appeals;
- each administrative order or memorandum of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals or of the Administrative Office of the Court that the Chief Judge directs to be published;
- the hearing calendar of the Court of Special Appeals; and
- each administrative regulation that the Chief Judge of the District Court adopts.

Background: The State Reporter, appointed by the Court of Appeals, is responsible for the publication and distribution of the official opinions of the Court of Appeals and the Court of Special Appeals. Opinions designated for publication must be published within six months of the decision in the case.

The Judiciary advises that the court documents addressed in this bill are currently posted promptly on its website. The documents are available to the public at no expense for access.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 69 (Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee)(By Request - Maryland Judicial Conference) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 10, 2014
ns/hlb

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