

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 91 (Senators Kagan and Waugh)
 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Board of Elections - Open Meetings - Video Streaming and Recording
(State Board of Elections Transparency Act)

This bill requires the State Board of Elections (SBE) to make available to the public on the Internet (1) live video streaming of each open meeting of the board and (2) a complete, unedited archived video recording of each open meeting for a minimum of four years after the date of the meeting.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures increase by at least \$8,500 in FY 2018 and by \$2,500 annually thereafter. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	8,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Net Effect	(\$8,500)	(\$2,500)	(\$2,500)	(\$2,500)	(\$2,500)

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: SBE’s activities include (1) establishing policies governing the administration of elections, through regulations (adopted under State election laws) and guidance; (2) managing and coordinating statewide elections systems, including the voting system and voter registration system; and (3) supervising and supporting local boards of

elections. The five-member board meets numerous times each year at its headquarters in Annapolis. Meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the board's website. SBE regulations address public access to and participation in meetings, including attendance and observation, and recording, photographing, taping, or broadcasting of board proceedings provided that it does not disturb the meeting.

State Fiscal Effect: General fund expenditures increase by at least \$8,500 in fiscal 2018, and by \$2,500 annually thereafter to set up a live video streaming and archiving system for SBE meetings. This estimate reflects (1) one-time costs for a camera (or cameras), related accessories, and a laptop, and (2) the annual cost of a subscription to an online streaming service.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): State Board of Elections; Department of Information Technology; Board of Public Works; Livestream; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 17, 2017
mm/hlb

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