Department of Fiscal Services

Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE Revised

House Bill 93 (Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee)

(Departmental - State Board of Elections)

Commerce & Government Matters

Referred to Economic & Environmental Affairs

Election Laws - Canvassing of Ballots

This enrolled departmental bill changes the date on which local elections boards may begin the canvassing of absentee ballots from 4 p.m. on the Wednesday following the election day to 12 noon on the Wednesday following the election day. Each board must give public notice of the date and time of the canvass at least 10 working days prior to the day of the canvass. The bill also changes the time at which local elections boards may open absentee ballots from any time after the closing of the polls to 10 a.m. on the Wednesday following election day.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. Changing the date on which the local elections boards may begin the canvassing of ballots would not directly affect county finances. Similarly, the local elections boards could post the public notice of the canvass with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: The State Administrative Board of Election Laws has determined that this bill has no impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Information Source(s): State Administrative Board of Election Laws; Baltimore City; Montgomery, Prince George's, Talbot, and Wicomico counties; Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 18, 1996

ncs Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 22, 1996

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