

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 89 (Delegate Weir)
Commerce and Government Matters

Legislative Districting - Delegate Districts

This bill proposes a constitutional amendment requiring that legislative districts be subdivided into delegate districts if the majority of a legislative district's residents live in one county and the remaining portion of its population lives in another county. Under the subdivision provision, the lesser population must be contained within a single-member delegate district. A single-member district may contain populations from both counties.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal effect on general fund expenditures. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: None. Subdividing legislative districts into delegate districts would not directly affect county finances.

Fiscal Analysis

State Expenditures: The Maryland Constitution requires proposed amendments to the Constitution be publicized in at least two newspapers in each county, if available, and in at least three newspapers in Baltimore City once a week for four weeks immediately preceding a general election. The costs associated with these requirements are borne by the State. Any additional expenditures would be minimal and could be absorbed within the State Administrative Board of Election Laws' budget.

Local Expenditures: If approved by the General Assembly, this constitutional amendment will be submitted to the voters at the 1996 general election. It should not require additional costs for the county election boards to administer the election.

Information Source(s): State Administrative Board of Election Laws; Calvert, Caroline, and Howard counties; Baltimore City; Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 24, 1996

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