

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 689 (Prince George's County and Montgomery County Delegations)  
Commerce and Government Matters

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**Prince George's County - Zoning Matters - Citizens' Referendum**  
**PG/MC 11-96**

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This bill permits the citizens of Prince George's County who reside in election districts affected by any comprehensive zoning, general, or master plan; subdivision or zoning ordinance amendment; or other ordinance of a legislative effect adopted by the County Council sitting as the District Council, to petition the action to referendum. The petition must be signed by at least 5% of the qualified voters who reside in the affected election district(s), but not exceeding 10,000 voters. If an ordinance applies to the entire regional district in Prince George's County, the petition must be signed by at least 10,000 voters. In addition, the petition must be submitted to the county elections board within 45 days after final adoption of the ordinance. The final deadline can be extended an additional 45 days provided the initial deadline is met and more than one-third of the total number of qualified signatures required to complete the petition are filed with the county elections board.

The county elections board must verify the registration of the individuals signing the petition and, if the required number of qualified voters is verified, the board must place the ordinance on the ballot in Prince George's County at the next regular election for members of the House of Representative of Congress for approval or rejection.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** None. Any costs associated with certifying signatures or educating the voters about the issue(s) in the petition could be handled with existing resources.

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**Information Source(s):** Prince George's County, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 8, 1996

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