

Department of Fiscal Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 293 (Senator Pinsky, *et al.*)  
Economic and Environmental Affairs

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**Elections - Nomination of Candidates - Petition Signature Requirements**

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This bill changes the number of signatures of registered voters required to nominate candidates by petition from at least 3% of the registered voters to at least 1% of the registered voters, or 20,000 registered voters, whichever is less.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. Any increase in the number of candidates filing for election could be handled with the State Administrative Board of Election Laws' existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None. Any increase in the number of signatures needing verification could be handled with local elections boards' existing resources, as could any costs associated with an increase in the number of candidates' names placed on the ballots. Any new filing fees are assumed to be minimal.

**Small Business Effect:** None. The bill would not directly affect small businesses.

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**Information Source(s):** State Administrative Board of Election Laws, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 11, 1997  
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