Department of Fiscal Services

Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 625 (Delegate Arnick) Commerce and Government Matters

Campaign Contribution - Contribution Limits - Exception

This bill allows an individual, association, unincorporated association, corporation, or any other entity to exceed current law campaign contribution limits if (1) the entity files a statement with the State Administrative Board of Election Laws (SABEL) that it will exceed the limits or could exceed the limits; and (2) the entity reports each subsequent contribution during the remaining four-year election cycle within 30 days of the contribution or within 48 hours if the contribution is made within 30 days prior to an election. Any statements or reports must be filed on the forms prescribed by SABEL.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. SABEL could handle any additional reports with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal effect on small businesses. Since the bill allows small businesses to exceed the campaign contribution limits, their operations could be impacted. The impact would depend upon the amount of the contributions in excess of the current limits.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 6, 1997

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