

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 77 (Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee)
(Department of Legislative Reference)
Commerce and Government Matters

Precinct Boundary Changes

This bill prohibits the creation of new voting precincts during the period March 1, 1998 through November 5, 2002 in order to facilitate the redistricting process.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: County expenditures could be affected as discussed below.

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

Fiscal Analysis

Local Expenditures: Under the bill, local elections boards would be prohibited from creating new voting precincts from March 1, 1998 through November 5, 2002. In order to accommodate population increases, the boards would probably create new precincts prior to March 1, 1998 in order to conduct elections over the four-year period. As a result, local elections boards would be shifting planned precinct changes from the future to the near-term. The boards could experience an increase in costs in the near-term due to the hiring of additional election judges and the purchasing of additional voting equipment. However, expenditures over the four-year period would probably remain unchanged from current projections because the same number of precinct changes would have been made by the boards.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 13, 1997

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