

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 148 (Delegate Kagan)
Commerce and Government Matters

Election Laws - Campaign Reports

This bill prohibits the use of information obtained solely from campaign contribution and expenditure reports filed with elections boards from being sold or used for commercial purposes, or used to solicit contributions. A candidate or political committee that filed the reports may use the information for any purpose. Violators are subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not exceeding one year.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues and expenditures due to the applicable penalties.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in expenditures due to the applicable penalties. Revenues would not be affected.

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

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: General fund revenues could increase under the bill's monetary penalty provision depending upon the number of convictions and fines imposed.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures could increase as a result of the bill's incarceration penalty due to increased payments to counties for reimbursement of inmate costs, depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed.

Persons serving a sentence of one year or less are sentenced to a local detention facility. The State reimburses counties for part of the per diem rate after a person has served 90 days. State per diem reimbursements for fiscal 1998 are estimated to range from \$12 to \$42 per inmate, depending upon the jurisdiction. Persons sentenced in Baltimore City are incarcerated in the Baltimore City Detention Center (BCDC), a State operated facility. The per diem cost for fiscal 1998 is estimated at \$43 per inmate.

Local Expenditures: Expenditures could increase as a result of the bill's incarceration penalty depending upon the number of convictions and sentences imposed. Counties pay the full cost of incarceration for the first 90 days of the sentence, plus part of the per diem cost after 90 days. Per diem operating costs of local detention facilities are expected to range from \$23 to \$83 per inmate in fiscal 1998.

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

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