

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 70 (Chairman, Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee)
(Departmental - State Administrative Board of Election Laws)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Election Laws - Campaign Finance Reports - Audits

This departmental bill authorizes the State Administrator of Election Laws to audit the campaign finance reports of political committees. Current law authorizes the State Administrator to audit only the financial reports of candidates.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill codifies existing practice.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None. The State Administrative Board of Election Laws (SABEL) has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: SABEL has audited political committees in the past as a standard practice. SABEL contracts with private firms to perform audits of campaign reports of candidates, candidates' committee's, Political Action Committees, and slates.

State Effect: None. SABEL already performs this function with existing resources.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 16, 1998

tlw

Analysis by: Thomas Hickey

Direct Inquiries to:

Reviewed by: John Rixey

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710