

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 72 (Chairman, Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee)
(Departmental - State Administrative Board of Election Laws)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Election Laws - Campaign Finance Reports - Computerization

This departmental bill authorizes the State Administrative Board of Election Laws (SABEL) to exempt candidates, accounts, and political committees with de minimis financial activity from filing all campaign finance reports in an electronic storage format. These entities could continue to file hard copy financial reports. Under current law, beginning with campaign finance reports due in November 1997, the reports of statewide candidates and their political committees must be filed with and maintained by SABEL in an electronic format. Beginning with the reports due in November 1999, all reports filed with SABEL must be filed in an electronic medium.

The bill is effective June 1, 1998.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Any effect on SABEL's workload could be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

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

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

Fiscal Note History:

First Reader - January 19, 1998

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