

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 976 (Delegate Franchot. *et al.*)

Commerce and Government Matters

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**Campaign Finance Reports - Use of Electronic Medium for Submission**

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This bill specifies that campaign finance reports due before November 1, 2000 with the State Board of Elections must be submitted on a diskette. The bill also provides that campaign finance reports required to be filed in November 2000 and thereafter may use any electronic medium approved by the State board.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Potential increase in State Board of Elections' expenditures. No effect on revenues.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Expenditures:** Should the State Board of Elections approve an electronic medium other than diskettes for submission of campaign finance reports, expenditures could increase for computer programming costs. The cost for developing Internet or electronic mail filing capabilities is estimated at \$65,000. The State Board of Elections currently has a web site which would need to be re-configured to accept campaign finance reports and to secure the transmission of electronic documents.

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**Information Source(s):** State Board of Elections, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**

First Reader - February 25, 1999

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Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 15, 1999

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