

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 744 (Senator Dorman. *et al.*)

Finance

Electricity Regulation - Renewable Portfolio Standard

This bill requires the Public Service Commission (PSC) to establish a renewable portfolio standard that applies to all retail electricity products sold in the State. Renewable portfolio standard means the percentage of the electricity in each retail electricity product in the State that must be derived from eligible renewable energy resources. The bill specifies that the standard will begin at 1% starting January 1, 2002, increasing by 0.5% annually until it reaches 6%.

The PSC must establish a system of tradable credits for meeting the renewable portfolio standard.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill would not significantly impact governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill would not significantly impact governmental operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The PSC is not required to establish a renewable portfolio standard applicable to retail electricity products.

Background: The bill's stated intent is to establish a market for electricity from renewable energy resources and to lower the cost to consumers of electricity from these resources.

State Fiscal Effect: The PSC could meet the bill's requirements using existing budgeted resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Public Service Commission, Department of Legislative Services

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nlr/jr

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