

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 45 (Delegate Arnick)

Commerce and Government Matters

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State Comptroller - Rules of Succession

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This constitutional amendment provides that in the case of a vacancy in the office of the State Comptroller by death or otherwise, the Chief Deputy Comptroller shall act as Comptroller until a successor is elected at the next regularly scheduled general election, and the successor qualifies and takes office. This also applies if the Comptroller is removed by the Governor for incompetence, malfeasance, willful neglect, or misappropriation of funds.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The Maryland Constitution requires that proposed amendments to the constitution be publicized in at least two newspapers in each county, if available, and in at least three newspapers in Baltimore City once a week for four weeks immediately preceding a general election. The State is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The proposed FY 2001 budget of the State Board of Elections is expected to contain funding for publishing constitutional amendments for the 2000 general election.

**Local Effect:** If approved by the General Assembly, this constitutional amendment will be submitted to the voters at the 2000 general election. It should not result in additional costs for the county election boards.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

**Current Law:** The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, fills a vacancy by appointing an individual to be acting Comptroller until the next regularly scheduled election.

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### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** State Board of Elections, Comptroller of the Treasury (Bureau of Revenue Estimates), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 13, 2000  
nncsjr Revised - House Third Reader - March 21, 2000

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