

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 66 (Senator Green)

Finance

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**Retail Electricity Industry - Aggregators - Counties and Municipal Corporations**

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This bill repeals the prohibition against a county or municipal corporation acting as an aggregator that purchases electricity on behalf of consumers.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2000.

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**Fiscal Summary**

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

**Local Effect:** The bill is not expected to have a net effect on revenues or expenditures for counties or municipalities that choose to become aggregators.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** A county or municipal corporation may not act as an aggregator unless the Public Service Commission (PSC) determines there is not sufficient competition within the boundaries of the county or municipal corporation.

**Background:** Aggregation allows customers to benefit from electric competition by pooling together to negotiate discounted prices.

**State Fiscal Effect:** The PSC could handle any additional work resulting from the bill using existing budgeted resources.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** The bill is enabling in nature and is not expected to have a net effect on expenditures or revenues for counties or municipalities that choose to become aggregators. It is expected that aggregation would generally be performed on a cost-recovery basis.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Public Service Commission; Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Dorchester, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties; City of Bowie, Town of Thurmont; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 28, 2000  
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