

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1059 (Delegates Malone and Moe)
Commerce and Government Matters

Primary Elections - Voting by Eligible Voters Registered as Independent

This bill requires a political party to allow an eligible voter registered as independent to vote in the primary election for the nomination of a political party's candidate for public office. The bill prohibits an eligible voter registered as independent from voting for the nomination of more than one party's candidate for public office in a primary election.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's requirements could be handled with the budgeted resources of the State Board of Elections.

Local Effect: Local governments could incur increased printing and mailing costs. However, these costs are assumed to be absorbable within existing local government resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Political parties are not required to allow voters registered as independent to vote in the party's primary elections.

Background: Independent voters are being allowed to vote in the March 7, 2000, Republican Presidential Primary election.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 7, 2000
nlr/jr

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