

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Joint Resolution 9 (Delegate Weir. *et al.*)

Commerce and Government Matters

**Commission to Study Proportional Representation and Single-Member
Legislative Districting for the House of Delegates of the General Assembly**

This joint resolution calls for the creation of an 11-member Commission to Study Proportional Representation and Single-Member Legislative Districting for the House of Delegates of the General Assembly. The commission, comprised of six Delegates and five private citizens appointed by the Governor, is to study the feasibility and desirability of proposing a constitutional amendment instituting a system of single-member legislative districts for the House of Delegates. Members may not be compensated, but may be reimbursed for expenses. The Department of Legislative Services will staff the commission. The commission is to report to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2001.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Compliance with this joint resolution could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: In 34 of the 47 State legislative districts, the three members of the House of Delegates of those districts are elected at large; in ten legislative districts, the House members are elected from a combination of single-member districts and two-member

districts; and in three legislative districts, the House members are elected from single-member districts.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: A similar joint resolution was introduced at the 1999 session as HJ 5 and received an unfavorable report by the House Commerce and Government Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 16, 2000

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