

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 79 (Chairman, Finance Committee)
(Departmental - Elections, State Board of)

Finance

County Boards of Elections - Employee Grievances

This departmental bill clarifies that a county board of elections employee who is covered by the State Personnel and Pensions Article has employee grievance matters heard by the employee's county board of elections. Because employees of the local boards of elections for Allegany, Calvert, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties are not covered by the State article, their employees are not subject to the bill.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The change is procedural in nature and would not affect State finances.

Local Effect: On the very rare occasions that a county board of elections employee files a grievance, the bill may require additional county personnel time and effort. However, any necessary costs could be handled with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: The State Board of Elections has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law: Among the counties to whom this bill applies, members of the local boards of elections are appointed and removed in accordance with the State Personnel and Pensions Article. It is unclear, however, whether the State Board of Elections or the appropriate local board of elections should act as the principal unit in hearing a grievance.

Background: In 1999, a local board of elections employee was terminated and the employee grieved the termination. When the employee appealed the matter to the Department of Budget and Management, Office of Personnel, it was unclear what department or agency should act as the principal unit to respond to the appeal. The bill makes it clear that the local board would respond to the grievance.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): State Board of Elections, Baltimore City, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Wicomico County, Department of Legislative Services

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cm/jr

Analysis by: Mark Collins

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510