

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1202 (Prince George's County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Prince George's County - Specimen Ballots
PG 405-01

This bill requires the Prince George's County Board of Elections to mail a specimen ballot to each registered voter before a general election, and to the household of each registered voter before a primary election.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George's County expenditures would increase by \$278,250 in FY 2003 assuming the number of registered voters remains constant. Revenues would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Specimen ballots must be mailed to the household of each registered voter before a general election. The Prince George's County Board of Elections is not required to send out specimen ballots for primary elections.

Local Fiscal Effect: The next primary election will take place in September 2002 and the next general election will take place in November 2002; both occur in fiscal 2003. Local expenditures are expected to increase by \$278,250 in fiscal 2003 due to additional printing and postage costs (\$159,250 for the primary election and \$119,000 for the

general election). In fiscal 2004 there is a Presidential primary election (increase of \$164,000) and in fiscal 2005 there is a Presidential general election (an increase of \$126,250).

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar bills were introduced in 2000 (HB 1022), 1999 (HB 337), and 1998 (HB 631). All three bills passed the House. The 2000 and 1999 bills were not reported from the Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee. The 1998 bill was not reported from a Senate select committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 22, 2001
ef/hlb

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