

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1189 (Prince George's County Delegation)

Judiciary

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Prince George's County - Publications - Newspaper of Record
PG 403-01

This bill provides that in Prince George's County a "newspaper in general circulation" includes a newspaper designated by the county council as a newspaper of record and a newspaper that is published by a small business as defined by the State Finance and Procurement Article.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. This bill would not affect Prince George's County finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: When a statute or court order refers to publishing a legal advertisement or legal notice, words such as "paper," "newspaper," "newspaper in general circulation," or "newspaper devoted to the dissemination of general news" mean a publication that: (1) has at least four pages; (2) habitually contains news items; (3) has been published and distributed, by sale, from an established place of business at least once a week for six months; (4) has general circulation throughout the community where it is published; and (5) is entitled to be entered as second-class matter in the United States mail.

A small business is defined as: (1) being independently owned and operated; (2) not being dominant in its field; and (3) having 50 or fewer full-time employees.

Background: The proposed legislation reflects current practice. Designating a newspaper as “a newspaper in general circulation” eliminates potential disputes to whether or not the designated newspaper meets the State’s criteria for a newspaper of record.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 22, 2001
ncs/hlb Revised – Enrolled Bill – May 7, 2001

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