

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 700 (Senator Colburn)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Ways and Means

Dorchester County - Board of Education - Selection of Members - Straw Ballot

This bill requires the Board of Supervisors of Elections in Dorchester County to include a straw ballot question on the county's November 2002 general election ballot. The question will ask Dorchester County voters if they favor changing the method for selecting the county board of education from appointment by the Governor to election by county voters. The vote is advisory only.

The bill is effective July 1, 2002.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The Board of Supervisors of Elections in Dorchester County could include the question on the county's November 2002 ballots with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Board of Education of Dorchester County consists of five members appointed by the Governor from the county at large.

Background: The Board of Education of Dorchester County is 1 of 11 appointed school boards in the State. The other 13 local boards of education are elected. A breakdown of the selection methods and the numbers of school board members for all 24 local boards is shown in **Exhibit 1**.

Exhibit 1
Selection Method for Maryland's Local Boards of Education

	Full Voting Members	Elected Members			Student Member
		Appointed Members	County At Large	From Districts	
Allegany	5	0	5	0	1
Anne Arundel	7	7	0	0	1
Baltimore City	9	9	0	0	1
Baltimore	11	11	0	0	1
Calvert	5	0	2	3	1
Caroline	5	5	0	0	0
Carroll	5	0	5	0	1
Cecil	5	5	0	0	1
Charles	7	0	7	0	1
Dorchester	5	5	0	0	1
Frederick	7	0	7	0	0
Garrett	5	0	2	3	1
Harford	7	7	0	0	1
Howard	5	0	5	0	0
Kent	5	0	5	0	0
Montgomery	7	0	2	5	1
Prince George's	9	0	0	9	1
Queen Anne's	5	5	0	0	0
St. Mary's	5	0	1	4	1
Somerset	5	0	0	5	0
Talbot	5	5	0	0	1
Washington	7	0	7	0	1
Wicomico	7	7	0	0	0
Worcester	7	7	0	0	1

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Dorchester County, Department of Legislative Services

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Analysis by: Mark W. Collins

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