

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2002 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 1 (The President)  
(Department of Legislative Services – Code Revision)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Commerce and Government Matters

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**Election Law**

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This code revision bill adds an Election Law Article as a new article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The bill revises, restates, and recodifies current laws relating to the powers and duties of State and local boards of election, voter registration, political parties, candidates, petitions, questions, elections, voting, polling places, canvassing, contested elections, offenses and penalties, campaign finance, disclosure, and the public financing of elections.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. This bill recodifies specified existing laws without substantive change. Any change to existing laws impinging upon substance are not expected to materially affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** This bill revises, restates, and recodifies current laws relating to various Election Law matters.

**Background:** The Election Law Article is a product of the continuing revision of the Annotated Code of Maryland by the legal staff of the Office of Policy Analysis,

Department of Legislative Services. The first revised articles were enacted at the First Extraordinary Session of 1973. To date, 26 other revised articles have become law: Agriculture, Business Occupations and Professions, Business Regulation, Commercial Law, Corporations and Associations, Correctional Services, Courts and Judicial Proceedings, Criminal Procedures, Education, Environment (enacted as Health – Environmental Article), Estates and Trusts, Family Law, Financial Institutions, Health - General, Health Occupations, Insurance, Labor and Employment, Natural Resources, Public Utility Companies, Real Property, State Finance and Procurement, State Government, State Personnel and Pensions, Tax - General, Tax - Property, and Transportation. The basic thrust of the revision is formal; the primary purposes of the work are modernization and clarification, not policymaking.

**Additional Comments:** A revision sometimes must touch on the substance of the law. Every effort is made to ensure that a proposed revision conforms as nearly as possible to the intent of the General Assembly, and all of these revisions are highlighted in the appropriate reviser's notes. In other instances, the staff and the Article Review Committee have used reviser's notes to call to the attention of the General Assembly fundamental policy issues that are beyond the purview of the revision process.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** State Board of Elections, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 22, 2002  
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