

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 721

(Senator Collins)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Commerce and Government Matters

Elections - Reporting Requirements

This bill alters the date of the annual campaign finance report from November to the third Wednesday in January. It repeals the requirement for a political committee to file a report six months after a general election where a cash balance, unpaid debt, or deficits remain and requires the annual report to be filed in a general election year.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The additional report and increased postage costs for pre-report notifications could be handled with the existing resources of the State Board of Elections.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Political committees are required under State law to file four financial disclosure reports in an election year on the following schedule:

- the fourth Tuesday preceding a primary election;
- the second Friday preceding a primary election;
- the second Friday preceding a general election; and
- the third Tuesday after the general election.

An annual report is required of political committees during non-election years. An additional report is required six months after a general election if a cash balance, unpaid bills, or deficit remains in a campaign account.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 19, 2002
ncs/jr

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