

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 912 (Delegate Bobo, *et al.*)
 Commerce and Government Matters

Election Laws - Contribution Reports - Contributor Information

This bill requires that a campaign report submitted to the State Election Board include the full name, mailing address, employer, and occupation of the contributor where the cumulative contribution amount is greater than \$251 in a four-year election cycle. Candidates, political committee chairmen, and treasurers are required to use their best efforts to obtain this information from contributors by clearly requesting the required information and timely reporting all requested information received.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: \$10,000 general fund expenditure increase in FY 2003 only for software retooling to accommodate adjusted reporting requirements. No effect on revenues.

(in dollars)	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	10,000	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$10,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Campaign reports filed under the State Election Code do not require contributor identity information. The language of this bill, however, is similar to the

Federal Election Campaign Act of 1976, which requires political committees to file periodic reports containing contributor identifying information. This Act does not apply to State elections.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: An identical bill, SB 771, was introduced in the 2001 session and was unfavorably reported from the Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee. A similar bill (SB 425) was introduced in the 2000 session, and was also unfavorably reported from the committee.

Cross File: SB 339 (Senator Pinsky, *et al.*) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 18, 2002
ncs/jr

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