

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 555
Environmental Matters

(Delegate Healey, *et al.*)

Public Service Companies - Systems Repairs

This bill requires a public service company to submit to a county and municipal corporation a three-year project plan for systems repairs that will take place in the respective jurisdiction.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill would not materially affect local government finances.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill requires that by September 1 of each year, each public service company must submit a three-year project plan for systems repair work that requires cutting into a public roadway, sidewalk, or other improvement on public property to each county and municipal corporation for work that will take place in the respective jurisdictions. The plan must be submitted to a person designated by each jurisdiction, and public service companies must consult with the affected jurisdiction prior to submitting a plan.

For each scheduled systems repair, the plan must include:

- the anticipated date and time;

- the location; and
- an impact analysis.

Current Law: Although some level of coordination of roadway projects may occur through local permitting and inspection activities or informal information exchange, there is no statutory requirement for a public service company to report scheduled capital projects or system repair projects to affected counties or municipal corporations in which it provides service.

Local Fiscal Effect: While one local government (Cecil County) reports that the bill may improve coordination, no local governments report a fiscal impact.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 233 (Delegate Hubbard), a similar bill, was withdrawn by the sponsor.

Information Source(s): Town of Indian Head, Cecil County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Public Service Commission, Office of People's Counsel, Carroll County, Department of Legislative Services

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lsc/mdr

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