

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

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 1249

(Delegate Wood)

Commerce and Government Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Election Law - Political Action Committees - Contributions**

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This bill authorizes an employee union or other membership entity that collects contributions for its affiliated political action committees through employer payroll deductions, to send designated contributions to the State or local chapter of that entity. A State or local entity is then required to transfer these contributions to its affiliated political action committee within five days. The bill also changes from 3 months to 30 days, the period in which employers are allowed to hold contributions designated for employee unions, groups, or their affiliated political committees before transferring them to the designated membership entity.

The bill is effective January 1, 2003.

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**Fiscal Summary**

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** State law requires employers to transmit contributions made to the affiliated political action committees of employee membership entities within three months of being withheld by payroll deduction. Employee membership entities must then transfer funds received to their affiliated political action committees within three

months. Current law has no provision regarding the transfer of contributions from employee membership entities to their affiliate State or local chapters.

**Background:** Chapter 158 of 2001 allows employee unions and groups, and membership associations to obtain contributions from their members for their affiliated political action committees through employer payroll deduction programs.

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### **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 25, 2002  
ncs/mdr

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