

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 302 (Prince George's County Senators)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Election Law - Prince George's County Board of Elections - Selection of Members

This bill eliminates two regular members and one substitute member from the Prince George's County local board of elections, to establish a three-member board with two substitute members. Two regular members and one substitute member must be from the party receiving the highest number of votes in the last preceding gubernatorial election in the county. One regular member and one substitute member must be from the party with the second highest number of votes.

The bill is effective June 1, 2003.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill would result in a general fund expenditure decrease for Prince George's County due to the eliminated positions. Regular board members are paid \$8,000 annually and substitutes receive \$3,250. The bill's provisions would result in a total annual savings of \$19,250 for FY 2004 and in the out-years. No effect on revenues.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Prince George's County Election Board consists of five regular members, four of whom must be from the majority political party and one of which must

be from the principal minority party. There are three substitute members, two from the majority party and one from the principal minority party. Members are selected on the basis of statewide results.

The Election Article defines the majority party as the political party to which the incumbent Governor belongs if the Governor is a member of a principal political party. If the Governor is not a member of a principal political party, a “majority party” means the principal political party whose candidate for Governor received the highest number of votes of any party candidate at the last preceding general election. A principal minority party is the political party whose candidate for Governor received the second highest number of votes of any party candidate at the last preceding general election. A principal political party consists of the principal majority party and the principal minority party.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George’s County, Department of Legislative Services

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