

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 14
Ways and Means

(Delegates Leopold and V. Clagett)

Polling Places - Access by Children Accompanying Parents

This bill requires an election judge to allow a child accompanying a voter who is under the age of 13 to have access to the voting booth at a polling place.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: A one-time expenditure of \$5,000 in FY 2005 by the State Board of Elections for printing of updated signs for approximately 1,800 polling places would be reimbursed by the local election boards. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: Minimal expenditure increase to pay for signs.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Children over the age of ten are prohibited from accompanying a voter into the voting booth. Other individuals allowed into a voting booth with the voter are (1) election judges assisting voters upon request; (2) polling place staff; (3) a member or other representative of the State Board of Elections; and (4) an accredited watcher or challenger.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Somerset County, Montgomery County, Charles County, Maryland State Board of Elections, Frederick County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 24, 2003
ncs/jr

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