

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 36
Ways and Means

(Delegate Cryor)

Polling Places - Access by Minors

This bill requires an election judge to allow an individual under the age of 15 accompanying a voter to have access to a voting booth at a polling place on the condition that the child is in the care of the voter and does not disrupt or interfere with normal voting procedures. An individual over the age of 14 would not be allowed to accompany a voter into the voting booth.

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 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) accredited watchers or challengers.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Maryland State Board of Elections,
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 30, 2003
lc/jr

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