

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2004 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 650

(Delegates Miller and Cluster)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental  
Affairs

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**Ethics - Financial Disclosure Statements - Additional Information**

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This bill repeals the requirement under the Public Ethics Law that an individual include a schedule listing additional interests or information that the individual chooses to disclose on the annual financial disclosure statement.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill is procedural in nature and would not directly affect governmental finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The State Public Ethics Law requires an official and a candidate for office as a State official to file an annual financial disclosure statement which shall include the following schedules:

- Interests in Real Property;
- Interests in Corporations and Partnerships;
- Interests in Business Entities Doing Business with the State;
- Gifts;
- Employment or Interest in Business Entities Doing Business with the State;

- Indebtedness to an Entity Doing Business with the State;
- Family Members Employed by the State;
- Sources of Earned Income; and
- Additional Information.

**Background:** The State Ethics Commission has identified several categories of information required on the annual financial disclosure statement that it believes have become too onerous and provide the commission and the public with little insight into possible conflicts. The bill reflects the commission's recommendations in this regard.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** State Ethics Commission, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 27, 2004  
n/mdr

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