

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1317 (Chairman, Health and Government Operations Committee)
(By Request – Departmental – Secretary of State)

Health and Government Operations Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs

Secretary of State - Division of State Documents - Special Fund

This departmental bill establishes a special fund to pay the publishing and distribution costs of the Division of State Documents in the Office of the Secretary of State. Any investment earnings generated by the fund must be credited to the State general fund, and fund expenditures may be made only through the State budget.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill generally codifies existing administrative practice and would not materially affect State finances. Potential minimal general fund revenues from investment income generated by the fund.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Secretary of State has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law: Unencumbered funds revert to the general fund at the close of the fiscal year, unless the funds are from a nonlapsing special fund.

Background: The Division of State Documents (DSD) in the Office of the Secretary of State publishes the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) and Contract Weekly. Subscription revenues are used to fund the printing and distribution activities of DSD.

State Fiscal Effect: The bill codifies existing practice, which is to retain subscription revenues from sales of COMAR and Contract Weekly. By establishing the nonlapsing special fund, the practices of the Office of the Secretary of State will be consistent with existing State law regarding use of a State appropriation. Potential minimal general fund revenue may be generated through the investment earnings generated by the fund.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Secretary of State, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 18, 2005
n/hlb

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