

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 788

(Senators Lawlah and Exum)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Ways and Means

Election Law - Prince George's County - Democratic Party Central Committee

This emergency bill increases the membership of the Prince George's County Democratic Party Central Committee from 23 to 24 by increasing the number of members elected countywide from 7 to 8.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The Prince George's County Board of Elections could implement the bill's requirements using existing budgeted resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A principal political party elects members of a county central committee at a primary election. State law provides that the Prince George's County Democratic Central Committee consists of 23 members. Two members must reside in and be elected by the eligible voters of each of the eight legislative districts lying within Prince George's County. At least one member must reside in each single member or two-member delegate district. In addition, seven members are elected countywide, and at the time of the election must reside in a different one of the seven legislative districts within Prince George's County in which a majority of voters reside.

Background: Five counties and Baltimore City currently elect members of local Democratic central committees by State legislative, local councilmanic, or commissioner districts. Eighteen counties have committees comprised of members elected at-large.

Additional Comments: Prince George's County consists of six legislative districts located wholly within the county and portions of two additional districts.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 889 (Delegate Hubbard, *et al.*) – Ways and Means.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 2, 2005
ncs/jr Revised - Senate Third Reader - April 6, 2005

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