

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 449 (Senator Pipkin)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Government Reports to General Assembly - Requirement of Electronic Submission

This bill modifies the process for the distribution or submission of reports and other publications to the General Assembly. Each official or unit of the State government must provide such documents to the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) using only electronic means. Reports and publications that are required by statute or regulation, or that are paid for by private funds, are exempted from the electronic submission requirement.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Requiring State agencies to submit specified reports to DLS electronically would not materially affect governmental finances since most agencies already prepare reports in electronic format. Agencies that generate and submit substantial volumes of reports could achieve some cost savings in printing, paper, copying, and binding expenses as a result of the bill. DLS could handle the bill's requirements with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Each official or unit of the State government must submit to DLS a list of the reports and other publications it issues and intends to distribute or submit to the General Assembly or to any committee, staff agency, or employee of the General Assembly. In addition, five copies of each such report must be submitted to DLS. An official or unit of the State government may give the report to a member of the General Assembly only if the President and the Speaker have given written approval for distribution of the report to each member of the General Assembly or the member asks for the report.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 403 (Delegate Miller, *et al.*) – Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Secretary of State, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, University System of Maryland, Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Legislative Services

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