

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 557 (Chair, Health and Government Operations)
 (By Request – Departmental – Secretary of State)

Health and Government Operations Judicial Proceedings

Maryland Register - Filing and Publishing Requirements

This departmental bill makes numerous changes affecting the quantity and timing of documents submitted for publication in the Maryland Register, including the handgun roster.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal. General fund expenditures for printing by the Division of State Documents decrease by \$1,600 annually beginning in FY 2007.

(in dollars)	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	(1,600)	(1,600)	(1,600)	(1,600)	(1,600)
Net Effect	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$1,700

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

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

Bill Summary: The Division of State Documents requires only one copy of the following documents submitted for publication in the Maryland Register:

- each executive order;
- each rule of the court adopted by the Court of Appeals;
- each administrative regulation adopted by the Chief Judge of the District Court;
and
- proposed regulations submitted by State agencies.

After consulting with the above divisions of State government, the Administrator of State Documents may require that any of these agencies submit their documents either electronically or on paper, or both.

A notice of proposed regulations submitted by State agencies must include a statement of purpose and conform with existing requirements regarding economic impact statements and analysis of impacts on persons with disabilities.

The Handgun Roster Board must publish the handgun roster in the Maryland Register only once a year.

The bill eliminates the requirement that the State Data Center charge a fee for online access to the Maryland Information Retrieval System.

Current Law: The Division of State Documents requires two copies of the following documents submitted for publication in the Maryland Register:

- each executive order;
- each rule of the court adopted by the Court of Appeals;
- each administrative regulation adopted by the Chief Judge of the District Court;
and
- proposed regulations submitted by State agencies.

The Handgun Roster Board must publish the handgun roster in the Maryland Register twice a year.

The State Data Center is required to charge a fee for online access to the Maryland Information Retrieval System.

Background: The Division of State Documents is implementing an electronic filing system that will enable agencies to submit electronic versions of documents submitted for

publication in the Maryland Register. This has reduced the need for agencies to submit paper copies of documents to be published in the Maryland Register.

The handgun roster is available online on a year-round basis. Since 1989, it has grown from 10 pages long to 31 pages long.

State Fiscal Effect: The cost of printing the handgun roster in the Maryland Register is approximately \$1,600. By eliminating one annual printing, the bill reduces annual general fund expenditures by the Division of State Documents by \$1,600.

The fee for the Maryland Information Retrieval System, which the bill eliminates, was never implemented, so there is no lost revenue for the State.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2006
ncs/rhh

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