

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 322

(Delegate Conway, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

**Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore - Wicomico County -
Membership**

This bill alters the voting representation of the Wicomico County government on the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore from five county council members to four county council members plus the county executive.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Altering Wicomico County government's membership on the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore would not affect county finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The voting representation of the Wicomico County government on the Tri-County Council is comprised of five county council members. An individual holding membership on the council by virtue of his/her elected position may hold office on the Tri-County Council only for the member's term of office.

Background: Established by Chapter 527 of 2001, the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore is a regional planning and development agency for an area encompassing Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester counties.

Wicomico County operates under the charter home rule form of government and is governed by a seven-member county council and a county executive. The county's first elected county executive took office on December 5, 2006.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 1675 and SB 1038, introduced during the 2006 session, would have altered the Wicomico County government's voting representation on the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore to be identical to this bill's membership requirements; however, the membership alteration would have taken effect at the beginning of the term of office that began in December 2006. SB 1038 passed the Senate and HB 1675 passed the House and was assigned to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. No further action was taken on either bill.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Wicomico County, Somerset County, Worcester County, Department of Legislative Services

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ncs/hlb

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