

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 613  
Ways and Means

(Montgomery County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental  
Affairs

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Election Law - Board of Elections Members - Montgomery County  
MC 704-07

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This bill increases the number of regular members of the board of elections in Montgomery County from three to five, three of whom must be of the majority party and the remaining two of the principal minority party.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** It is assumed the bill's changes would not directly affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** County expenditures would increase by \$20,000 annually due to board member salaries and by \$2,000 per election in any fiscal year in which an election occurs for payments to board members for canvassing of election results.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Each county has a local board of elections made up of three regular members and two substitute members, with the exception of Prince George's County which has five regular members and three substitute members. In the counties with boards made up of three regular members, two of the regular members and one substitute member must be of the majority party and the remaining regular member and substitute member of the principle minority party. Members are generally nominated by the majority and principle minority party county central committees and appointed by the Governor, subject to legislative confirmation. If a member of a local board dies, resigns,

is removed, or becomes ineligible, the substitute member belonging to the same political party becomes a regular member of the local board and a new substitute member is appointed.

State law requires that compensation for board members in Montgomery County must be at least \$5,000 for the president and \$4,500 for other members. Board members are also entitled to extra compensation, in addition to their regular compensation, for duties actually performed.

**Local Expenditures:** Montgomery County election board member salaries, and payments for conducting canvasses after each election, are set by the board (for new members) and approved through the county budget process. Salaries for new board members are currently \$10,000 per year and each board member is paid \$1,000 for canvassing of election results after an election. Therefore, due to the addition of two board members, Montgomery County expenditures would increase by \$20,000 annually due to board member salaries and by \$2,000 per election in any fiscal year in which an election occurs for payments to board members for canvassing of election results.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Montgomery County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 6, 2007  
ncs/jr

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