

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 959 (Senators Brinkley and Mooney)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Ways and Means

Frederick County Board of Elections - Salary Increase

This bill increases the minimum salary amounts of regular members of the Frederick County Board of Elections and sets a salary for substitute members. Minimum salary amounts are increased from \$2,100 for all regular members to \$5,500 annually for the president and \$5,000 for other regular members. Substitute members' salaries are set at \$4,500 annually.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2007. The salary provisions take effect at the beginning of the next following term of office (June 4, 2007).

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Frederick County expenditures would increase minimally in FY 2007 and by \$10,802 annually thereafter, due to the increased salaries of the president, regular members, and substitute members and associated fringe benefits. Revenues would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Each county generally has a local board of elections made up of three regular members and two substitute members (the Prince George's County board consists of five regular members and three substitute members). Two of the regular members and

one substitute member must be affiliated with the majority party and the remaining members with 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.

Board member terms are four years and begin on the first Monday in June of each year following a gubernatorial election.

Board member salary amounts are as provided for in each county's budget, though minimum salary amounts for board members in various counties are set in statute. The minimum salary amount for regular members of the Frederick County Board of Elections is \$2,100. Unless otherwise provided for in statute, substitute members must be paid at least \$25 for each meeting the substitute member attends.

Local Fiscal Effect: Frederick County expenditures would increase minimally in fiscal 2007 and by \$10,802 annually thereafter, due to the increased salaries (and associated fringe benefits) of the president, other regular members, and substitute members of the board of elections.

Regular members are currently paid \$3,600 annually and substitute members are paid \$1,895.

The minimal expenditure increase in fiscal 2007 reflects the portion of June 2007 in which the salary increases would be in effect (the next term of the board will begin on June 4, 2007). Beginning in fiscal 2008, expenditures would increase, at a minimum, by \$10,802 annually. This reflects the difference between the current budgeted salaries and the minimum salary for the president and other regular board members, and the salary of substitute members, set by the bill. Fringe benefits would correspondingly increase.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1091 (Frederick County Delegation) – Ways and Means.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 9, 2007
mll/jr Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 30, 2007

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