

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 1061 (Senator Harris, *et al.*)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Election Law - Gubernatorial Primary Election - Date

This bill moves the date of the gubernatorial primary election from the second Tuesday after the first Monday in September to the second Tuesday after the first Monday in June.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's change will cause State election expenditures associated with the 2010 gubernatorial primary election to be incurred in FY 2010, instead of in FY 2011. The change will accelerate preparation for the 2010 election cycle, including the expected implementation of a new voting system, which presumably may affect overall expenditures for the 2010 elections. Any impact, however, cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

Local Effect: Local government expenditures will similarly shift to FY 2010. It is assumed overall local government expenditures for the 2010 elections may also be affected by an accelerated preparation for the 2010 election cycle.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The gubernatorial primary election is held on the second Tuesday after the first Monday in September and the general election is held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November.

Background: Appendix 1 shows the dates of state primary elections held in 2006.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 1254 of 2007 received a hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee, but no further action was taken.

Cross File: HB 1352 (Delegate Frush) - Ways and Means.

Information Source(s): State Board of Elections, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Garrett County, Howard County, Montgomery County, National Association of Secretaries of State, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 25, 2009
ncs/hlb

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Appendix 1 2006 Primary Election Dates

<u>Primary Date</u>	<u>State</u>
March 7	Texas
March 21	Illinois
May 2	Indiana, North Carolina, Ohio
May 9	Nebraska, West Virginia
May 16	Kentucky, Oregon, Pennsylvania
May 23	Arkansas, Idaho
June 6	Alabama, California, Iowa, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota
June 13	Maine, North Dakota, South Carolina, Virginia
June 27	Utah
July 18	Georgia
July 25	Oklahoma
August 1	Kansas
August 3	Tennessee
August 8	Colorado, Connecticut, Michigan, Missouri
August 15	Nevada
August 22	Alaska, Wyoming
September 5	Florida
September 12	Arizona, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland , Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin
September 19	Washington, Massachusetts
September 23	Hawaii
September 30	Louisiana (open statewide and municipal primaries)
November 7	Louisiana (open congressional primary)

Source: National Association of Secretaries of State