

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 500 (The Speaker)(By Request - Department of Legislative Services)

Rules and Executive Nominations

**Department of Legislative Services - Publication of Municipal Charter
Amendments and Local Laws of Charter and Code Counties**

This bill (1) repeals a requirement that the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) print and index the titles of specified municipal charter enactments and local laws of charter and code counties in the Session Laws of the General Assembly and (2) requires DLS to publish the titles or the full text of specified municipal charter enactments and local laws of charter and code counties on the General Assembly website.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures for DLS decrease minimally beginning in FY 2020 from reduced printing costs. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect local governmental operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Charter counties, code counties, and municipalities in the State are generally required to annually submit to DLS copies of local laws or municipal charter enactments adopted during that calendar year or the latest fiscal year. DLS must annually arrange and print the titles of local laws and municipal charter enactments adopted and submitted by local governments, as specified, in the Session Laws of the General Assembly and index each title with, or in a supplemental volume to, the laws enacted by the General Assembly.

Background: After the Governor signs or vetoes bills, DLS publishes the *Laws of Maryland* (Session Laws) for that year. The Session Laws are a set of volumes containing all laws adopted during the previous session and all bills vetoed by the Governor with the veto messages. The Session Laws are published initially as paperbound volumes, called “advance sheets.” These are later replaced by hardbound volumes. Beginning with the 1996 session, the Session Laws are available online.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 286 (The President)(By Request - Department of Legislative Services) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Maryland Association of Counties; Maryland Municipal League; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 21, 2019
md/mcr

Analysis by: Elizabeth J. Allison

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510