

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 150 (Delegate Crosby)
Rules and Executive Nominations

State Government - House of Delegates - Bill Sponsorship - Limit

This bill generally prohibits a member of the House of Delegates from sponsoring more than 12 bills in a legislative session. The 12-bill limit does not apply to a bill (1) that a delegate sponsors by request of the Executive Branch, an entity created by State law or an executive order of the Governor, or a local jurisdiction or (2) that is sponsored by a standing committee or county delegation. For each bill that a delegate prefiles in accordance with State law, the delegate may introduce 1 bill in excess of the 12-bill limit. However, a delegate may not introduce more than 3 bills in excess of the limit. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2021.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect the finances or operations of the General Assembly or the Department of Legislative Services (DLS).

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: There is no statutory limit on the number of bills that a senator or delegate may introduce in a legislative session. For the 2021 session, the Senate adopted a rule generally limiting the number of bills or resolutions that a senator may request for drafting to 30 and generally limiting the number of bills or resolutions that a senator may file for introduction to 25. The limits do not, however, apply to (1) local delegation bills; (2) bills introduced on behalf of the Administration or an executive department or other unit of the

Executive Branch; or (3) bills introduced by request of a workgroup, commission, or task force. Under the rule, for each bill or resolution a senator prefiles for introduction, the limit increases by 1, not to exceed a total increase of 5 bills or resolutions.

Prefiling of Bills

In accordance with § 2-1502 of the State Government Article, a member or member-elect of the General Assembly may direct DLS, before a regular session of the General Assembly, to file a bill for introduction during that session (“prefile”). The statutory deadline for requesting DLS to prepare a bill for prefiling is November 1 or, in a State legislative election year, November 20. The deadline for requesting DLS to file a bill for introduction is November 20 or, in a State legislative election year, December 10. A directive to file a bill for introduction must be in writing and state the name of each sponsor.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 18, 2021
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