This departmental bill authorizes the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) to retain specified property records in an electronic medium rather than on microfilm. The bill authorizes SDAT to periodically transfer property records, including property records cards, to the Maryland State Archives for retention.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: SDAT has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law: Specified property records must be rewritten periodically, and the current record and prior records must be retained. However, except for a record that contains current values, any record may be microfilmed, as provided by State law, and the original destroyed. The microfilm must be the permanent record.
**Background:** SDAT advises that microfilm is no longer used by the department, and as such, the bill will allow the department to store more items electronically and periodically transfer property records to the State Archives.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Baltimore City; Charles, Frederick, Montgomery, and Somerset counties; City of Frederick; City of Havre de Grace; Maryland Municipal League; Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Maryland Tax Court; Maryland State Archives; State Department of Assessments and Taxation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**

- **First Reader - January 17, 2022**
- **Third Reader - February 7, 2022**

Analysis by: Michael Sanelli

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: State Department of Assessments and Taxation – Property Appraisal Aids and Record Retention (Microfilm to Digital Act of 2022)

BILL NUMBER: SB 201

PREPARED BY: Jonathan Glaser, 443-447-0078, Jonathan.Glaser@maryland.gov

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

_X__ WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS

OR

___ WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

The proposed legislation will not result in an economic impact.