

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1119
(Delegate Parrott, *et al.*)
Ways and Means

**Election Law – Polling Places and Early Voting Centers – Aerial Pictures of
Electioneering Boundary**

This bill requires the State Board of Elections (SBE) to post on its website an aerial picture of the premises of each polling place and early voting center in the State before each election. Each local board of elections must also post on its website an aerial picture of the premises of each polling place and early voting center in the county before each election. Each aerial picture must include a line indicating where the electioneering boundary is located for that polling place or early voting center. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2022.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures increase by at least \$25,000 in FY 2022 and may increase by ongoing indeterminate amounts in future years, as discussed below. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	25,000	-	-	-	-
Net Effect	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)

Note: () = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease

Local Effect: Local government expenditures increase by at least \$25,000 in FY 2022 and may increase by ongoing indeterminate amounts in future years, as discussed below. Revenues are not affected. **This bill may impose a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: At each polling place and early voting center, one election judge from each principal political party must be designated by the local board of elections and, acting jointly, must post signs delineating a line around the entrance and exit of the building that are closest to that part of the building in which voting occurs. The line must be located as near as practicable to 100 feet from the entrance and exit and must be established after consideration of the configuration of the entrance and the effect of placement on public safety and the flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic. In Montgomery County, on approval of the local board, the line may be located at any point between 25 feet and 100 feet from the entrance and exit. The signs must contain the words “No Electioneering Beyond this Point.”

State Fiscal Effect: General fund expenditures increase by at least \$25,000 in fiscal 2022, reflecting the State’s share of an estimated minimum cost of creating aerial images of polling places and early voting centers showing the electioneering boundary for each polling place or early voting center. This estimate assumes that the images for polling places and early voting centers statewide are created by a geographic information system consultant and the cost is shared by SBE and the local boards of elections. Any costs associated with creating aerial images in future years is assumed to be relatively minimal if a significant majority of images are reused in future elections.

Additional costs may be incurred annually, beginning in fiscal 2022, to make the images available on the SBE website; however, the extent of any such costs has not been determined.

Local Fiscal Effect: Local government expenditures increase by at least \$25,000 in fiscal 2022, reflecting the local governments’ share of the cost of creating the aerial images required by the bill. Any costs associated with creating aerial images in future years is assumed to be relatively minimal. Local government expenditures may also increase annually, beginning in fiscal 2022, to the extent additional costs are incurred to make the images available on local boards of elections’ websites.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and St. Mary’s counties; State Board of Elections; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 6, 2022
rh/hlb

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