

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2023 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

House Bill 981  
Economic Matters

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**Limited Liability Companies - Articles of Organization - Required Information**

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This bill requires a limited liability company (LLC) to include in the articles of organization filed with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) the name and home address of each LLC member. A person is prohibited from filing articles of organization with SDAT that the person knows (or has reason to know) includes incorrect information regarding a member's name and home address; violators are guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a maximum penalty of a \$10,000 fine.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by at least \$278,400 in FY 2024 for one-time SDAT programming costs. The bill's criminal penalty is not anticipated to materially affect State operations or finances.

(in dollars)	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	278,400	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$278,400)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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

**Local Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect local government operations and finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful.

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## **Analysis**

**Current Law:** The articles of organization for an LLC must include (1) the name of the LLC; (2) the address of its principal office and the name and address of the resident agent; and (3) any other provision that is elected for inclusion by the members, as specified.

SDAT may not accept for record or filing (1) any document of an LLC that does not conform with law or (2) any documents, as specified, until all required recording, filing, and other fees have been paid to SDAT. When SDAT accepts for record any articles, certificate, or other document, SDAT must (1) endorse on the document its acceptance for record and the date and time of acceptance; (2) record promptly the document; and (3) send an acknowledgement to the LLC, its attorney, or its agent stating the date and time that the document was accepted for record. Any document which purports to be acknowledged may be treated by SDAT as properly acknowledged.

**Small Business Effect:** Entities desiring to form an LLC in Maryland are required to disclose the name and home address of each member in the articles of organization filed with SDAT and are subject to a criminal penalty under specified circumstances if the information is incorrect.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Office of the Public Defender; Maryland State's Attorneys' Association; State Department of Assessments and Taxation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 5, 2023  
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