

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 967

(Delegate Otto, *et al.*)

Environment and Transportation

Education, Energy, and the Environment

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Somerset County Code of Public Local Laws - 2025 Edition - Legalization

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This bill legalizes the 2025 Edition of the Somerset County Code of Public Local Laws and any supplement to it that contains laws enacted by the General Assembly. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Somerset County publication costs are expected to be minimal in FY 2026 and this amount is likely absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Somerset County is one of six counties that operate under the commission form of government. Commission counties have limited powers and only those powers that are expressly delegated by the General Assembly. Legalizing changes to the code of public local laws prior to publication of a new compilation must receive approval of the General Assembly.

**Additional Comments :** If a county makes nonsubstantive revisions to its code of public local laws, the revised code must be “legalized” by the General Assembly to the extent that local laws enacted by the General Assembly and contained in the county’s code are affected by the nonsubstantive revisions. Chapter 253 of 2016 legalized the 2016 edition of the Somerset County Code of Public Local Laws.

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## **Additional Information**

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

**Cross File:** SB 718 (Senator Carozza) - Education, Energy, and the Environment.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 24, 2025  
js/tso Third Reader - March 17, 2025

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Analysis by: Kayvon Samadani

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