

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2019 Session

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

House Bill 71 (Delegates Korman and Buckel)  
 Health and Government Operations

**State Board of Elections - Open Meetings - Video Streaming and Recording**  
**(State Board of Elections Transparency Act)**

This bill requires the State Board of Elections (SBE), in consultation with the Department of Information Technology, to make publicly available on the Internet: (1) live video streaming of each open meeting of SBE and (2) a complete, unedited archived video recording of each open meeting for a minimum of four years after the date of the meeting.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$8,800 in FY 2020, and by \$6,800 annually thereafter. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	8,800	6,800	6,800	6,800	6,800
Net Effect	(\$8,800)	(\$6,800)	(\$6,800)	(\$6,800)	(\$6,800)

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** SBE’s activities include (1) establishing policies governing the administration of elections, through regulations (adopted under State election laws) and guidance; (2) managing and coordinating statewide elections systems, including the voting system and voter registration system; and (3) supervising and supporting local boards of

elections. The five-member board meets numerous times each year at its headquarters in Annapolis. Meeting agendas, minutes, other materials, and audio recordings are currently posted on the board's website.

**State Fiscal Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$8,800 in fiscal 2020, and by \$6,800 annually thereafter. This estimate accounts for the bill's October 1, 2019 effective date and reflects the cost of setting up a live video streaming and archiving system for SBE meetings. It includes the costs of two wide-angle cameras and microphones (and installation), live streaming, four-year storage of video recordings, closed captioning, and support.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** SB 91 of 2017 received a hearing in the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, but no further action was taken. Its cross file, HB 169, passed the House with amendments and was referred to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, but no further action was taken.

**Cross File:** SB 184 (Senator Kagan) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

**Information Source(s):** State Board of Elections; Department of Information Technology; Board of Public Works; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 4, 2019  
sb/hlb

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