

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2016 Session

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

Senate Bill 244 (Senator Mathias)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Somerset County Code of Public Local Laws - 2016 Edition - Legalization**

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This bill legalizes the 2016 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, 2016.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Somerset County advises that publication costs will be minimal in FY 2017 and that this amount is 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.

**Background:** 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 271 of 2003 legalized the 1994 and 2003 editions of the Code of Public Local Laws of Somerset County. Chapter 271 also legalized any pocket or loose-leaf supplement to the 2003 Code of Public Local Laws published by the Somerset County commissioners.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 147 (Delegate Otto) - Environment and Transportation.

**Information Source(s):** Somerset County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 4, 2016  
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