

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1323 (Delegate Glenn)  
Health and Government Operations

---

State Government - State Boards and Commissions - Minority Party  
Representation

---

This bill requires that members of a State board or commission appointed by the Governor include minority party representation. Specifically, if the board or commission has fewer than five members, there must be at least one member who is a registered voter in the State and is not registered as a member of the majority party. If the board or commission has 10 or more members, at least 2 members must be registered voters who are not registered as members of the majority party. "Majority party" means the political party that had the largest number of registered voters registered as members of the party at the time of the last statewide general election.

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill's requirements can be handled with existing budgeted resources. Potential minimal operational impact to the extent that board memberships must be altered.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** The Appointments Office in the Office of the Governor recommends to the Governor the appointment or nomination of individuals to serve as members of State boards, commissions, committees, task forces, or other entities that by law require the membership to be appointed in whole or in part by the Governor. Various requirements

and qualifications for membership to each of the boards and commissions are specified in statute. There is no general requirement for a specific number of minority party members on boards or commissions.

**State Fiscal Effect:** The bill's requirements, including any potential reprogramming changes within the Governor's Office, can be handled with existing resources. However, the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation notes that the bill does not have prospective application or an implementation schedule that allows current board members to serve out existing terms. To the extent that board membership needs to be altered in the middle of members' terms in order to ensure minority party representation, there may be a minimal operational impact.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Governor's Office; Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 11, 2013  
ncs/lgc

---

Analysis by: Jennifer K. Botts

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