

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 244 (Delegate Jones, *et al.*)
Rules and Executive Nominations Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

General Assembly – Prefiled Bills – Deadlines

This bill alters the deadlines by which a member of the General Assembly must request the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) to prepare and prefile a bill for introduction at a regular legislative session. The bill applies in any year except a year when an election for members of the General Assembly is held. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill’s changes can be handled with existing budgeted resources. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary/Current Law: The deadlines for requesting DLS to prepare and prefile a bill differ depending on whether or not the request occurs in a year when an election for members of the General Assembly is held. **Exhibit 1** shows the existing deadlines for requesting DLS to prepare and prefile a bill and the bill’s changes to those deadlines. The bill does not alter the deadlines for requesting DLS to prepare and prefile a bill during a year when an election for General Assembly members is held.

Exhibit 1
General Assembly Deadlines for Prefiling Bills

	<u>Election Year</u> <u>(Current Law)</u>	<u>Non-election Year</u> <u>(Current Law)</u>	<u>Non-election Year</u> <u>(Under the Bill)</u>
Deadline for Requesting DLS to Prepare a Bill	November 20	November 15	November 1
Deadline for Directing DLS to Prefile a Bill	December 10	Second Friday after Thanksgiving	November 20

Source: Department of Legislative Services

In a year when an election for members of the General Assembly is held, a bill may be prefiled only by an individual elected or reelected to the General Assembly at that election. An individual first elected at that election may not request DLS to prepare a bill until after the election.

A directive to file a bill for introduction must be in writing and must state the name of each sponsor of the bill.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 680 (Senator King, *et al.*) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

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