

Department of Planning and Budget

2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB889

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|------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| House of Origin | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced | <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute | <input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed |
| Second House | <input type="checkbox"/> In Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute | <input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled |

2. Patron: Ebbin

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Campaign contribution limits; civil penalty.

5. Summary: Prohibits any person or campaign, referendum, or inaugural committee from making any single contribution, or any combination of contributions, that exceeds \$2,500 to any one candidate for the General Assembly or \$5,000 to any one candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General in any single calendar year. Political action, federal political action, or out-of-state political committees are prohibited from making any single contribution or any combination of contributions that exceeds \$5,000 to any one candidate for the General Assembly or \$10,000 to any one candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General in any single calendar year. No limits are placed on contributions made by political party committees, the candidate, or the candidate's family to the candidate's campaign. Civil penalties for violations of the limits may equal up to two times the excess contribution amounts.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: As stand-alone legislation, the Department of Elections considers implementation of this bill as “routine,” and does not require additional funding. However, the agency will review all electoral legislation likely to be enacted prior to the passage by each house. If the aggregate number of “routine” bills likely to pass either house is unusually large, it is possible the agency will require additional resources. If so, the Department of Elections will identify the costs at that time.

According to the Department of Elections, an average one-time expense of \$9,375 is estimated for contractor costs to implement redesign changes in its COMmittee Electronic Tracking (COMET) system associated with changes in campaign finance and reporting requirements. This is based on an estimated average of 100 hours of programming, which is expected to be fulfilled by a combination of contractors and in-house agency employees.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The Department of Elections and local general registrars.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 1/14/2020