

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 78 (Delegate Korman)
Health and Government Operations

State Government - Maryland Manual - Revisions (Maryland Manual
Modernization Act)

This bill repeals provisions requiring the *Maryland Manual* to be published in print every two years and requires that it be published exclusively online. The bill also designates the manual as the historical record of State government and requires the Maryland State Archives to (1) update the manual as necessary to maintain its accuracy and (2) preserve each electronic version published. To the extent practicable, the State Archivist must provide outreach to public schools, public libraries, and the general public to increase awareness of the availability and content of the manual.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. With respect to publishing the *Maryland Manual* online, the bill codifies existing practice. It is assumed that the State Archivist can provide outreach with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None. The bill does not directly affect local governmental operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Every two years, the Maryland State Archives is required to compile and edit a *Maryland Manual* that contains a copy of the Maryland Constitution and the name and address of each officer of the State or a county who is elected or

appointed by the Governor or the Board of Public Works. In addition, the State Archivist, in consultation with the Hall of Records Commission, may include additional information the Archivist considers necessary.

The Maryland State Archives must print the manual in accordance with State procurement law with budgeted funds and provide copies to members of the General Assembly and various other public institutions in the State.

The *Maryland Manual* was first published in 1896. In 1996, the first electronic version of the manual was made available on the Internet. From 1996 to 2006, the manual was available in both print and electronic formats. In practice, the manual was last published in print form in 2006. The bill codifies the Maryland State Archive's existing practice of maintaining an all-electronic version of the *Maryland Manual*.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Archives; Department of Legislative Services

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