

**Office of the County Auditor**  
**Auditor's Analysis**

**Council Bill No. 47-2022**

Introduced: June 6, 2022

Auditor: Lisa Geerman

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Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact of this legislation as it is a technical change to the County Code due to changes in the State Ethics Law.

Purpose:

The bill corrects an incorrect reference to the Annotated Code of Maryland and adds a new reporting requirement. The bill also includes new conflict-of-interest provisions and additional disclosures for State elected officials that local governments must incorporate into their ethics ordinances as a result of recently enacted legislation.

The Howard County Ethics Commission is required to certify to the State Ethics Commission on or before October 1 of each year that the County is in compliance with the requirements of the General Provisions Article, Title 5, Subtitle 8 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, for elected officials. The Commission must also submit to the local governing body a report on the administration of the Public Ethics Laws by the Commission.

Other Comments:

Changes to local ethics laws are required as a result of passage of State House Bills 363 and 1058, which were enacted during the 2021 General Assembly session.