

Summary and Analysis

Introduction

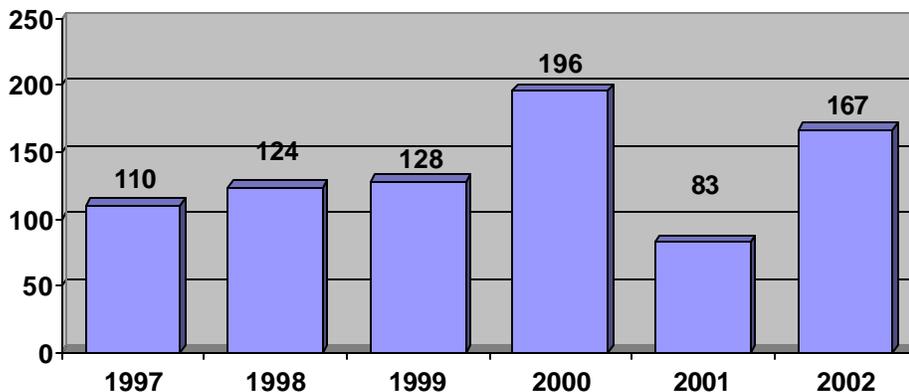
In 1995, the Legislative Budget Office (now the Legislative Service Commission Fiscal Staff) produced the first local impact statement (LIS) as required by S.B. 33 of the 120th General Assembly. The purpose of local impact statements is to provide members of the General Assembly with more thorough and timely information on the potential impacts of proposed legislation on counties, municipalities, townships, and school districts (referred to generically as “local governments” hereafter). The LIS information is designed to allow legislators to make better-informed decisions on bills that could affect local governments.

This section will examine the bills that were enacted in 2002 and during the 124th General Assembly. Comparisons are made with the bills enacted in 2002 and those enacted in previous years.

Bills Becoming Law

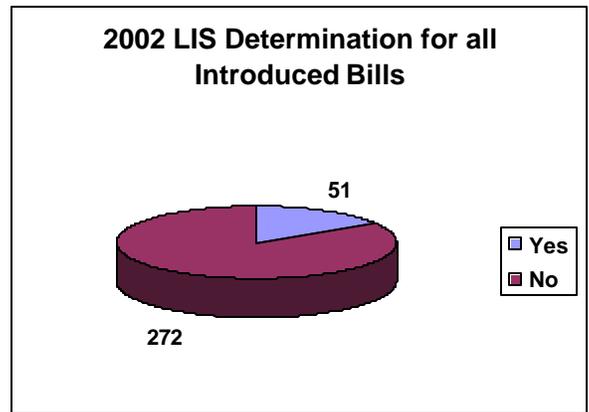
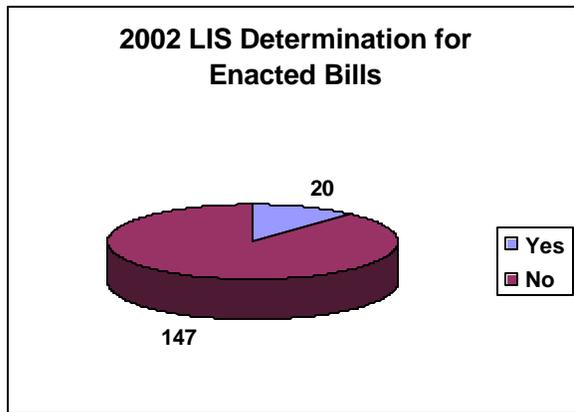
In calendar year 2002, the 124th General Assembly passed 108 House bills and 59 Senate bills, for a total of 167. The total number of enacted bills over the past six years has varied from a low of 83 in 2001 to a high of 196 in 2000. The number of bills passed in 2002 is the second highest total in the past six years. Overall, 250 of the 992 bills introduced in the 124th General Assembly became law.¹

Bills Passed and Becoming Law, 1997 – 2002



¹ Actually, the 124th General Assembly passed 84 bills in 2001. However, the Governor vetoed S.B. 148 in December 2001. Thus, only 83 bills passed in 2001 actually became law.

Bills with Local Impact (YES) and without Local Impact (NO)



Of the 167 bills passed in 2002 that became law:

- 149 of the 167 bills that passed were initially determined by LSC to have no local impact.
- 18 of the 167 bills that passed were initially determined by LSC to have a local impact.²
- 3 bills had a local impact “As Introduced,” but were estimated to have minimal or no local cost “As Enacted”
- 5 bills *did not* have a local impact “As Introduced,” but were estimated to have a local impact “As Enacted”
- 20 bills had a local impact “As Enacted.”

Of the 324 bills introduced in 2002:³

- 51 of all bills introduced in 2002 have a local impact.
- 272 of all bills introduced in 2002 have no local impact.

² Please see the introduction for an explanation of the criteria LSC uses when making local impact determinations.

³ H.B. 676 was not assigned to a committee and therefore a local impact determination was not completed.

Impact of the LIS

The 124th General Assembly introduced 992 bills. Out of these 992 bills, 250 were enacted.⁴ In 2001, 83 of the enacted bills were passed, and 167 bills were passed in 2002. Table 1 shows that 12% or 20 of the enacted bills in 2002 did have a local impact “As Enacted.” This is slightly lower than 2001 when 14% of the enacted bills were determined to have a local impact. Eighty-eight percent or 147 of the enacted bills in 2002 had no local impact “As Enacted.” This is slightly higher than the previous year when 86% of the enacted bills were determined to have no local impact.

Table 1: 124th General Assembly Enacted Bills

The Numbers				The Percentages			
Year	# of YES	# of NO	TOTAL	Year	% YES	% NO	% TOTAL
2001	12	71	83	2001	14 %	86 %	100 %
2002	20	147	167	2002	12 %	88 %	100 %

Table 2 shows that during the 124th General Assembly, 15% of all bills with an initial “Yes” local impact determination were enacted and 28% of all bills with no local impact were enacted. Thus, more bills with a “No” local impact determination were enacted than bills with a “Yes” local impact determination. Overall, 25% of all the bills introduced in the 124th G.A. were enacted.

Table 2: Bills Passed by the 124th General Assembly that Became Law

Initial Review	# of Enacted Bills	# of Introduced Bills	% Becoming Law
YES	30	196	15%
NO	220	794	28%
TOTAL	250	992 ⁵	25%

Table 3 shows similar results for the 123rd General Assembly. Seventeen percent of bills with a “Yes” local impact determination were enacted, and 31% of all bills with a “No” local impact determination were enacted. Twenty eight percent of all the bills introduced in the 123rd General Assembly were enacted.

⁴ S.B. 148 was vetoed by the Governor in December 2001.

⁵ H.B. 246 and H.B. 676 were not assigned to a committee and therefore a local impact determination was not completed.

Table 3: Bills Passed by the 123rd General Assembly that Became Law

Initial Review	# of Enacted Bills	# of Introduced Bills	% Becoming Law
YES	47	276	17%
NO	277	884	31%
TOTAL	324	1160	28%

Table 4 also shows similar results for the 122nd General Assembly. Fifteen percent of bills with a “Yes” local impact determination were enacted, and 22% of all bills with a “No” local impact determination were enacted. Twenty percent of all the bills introduced in the 122nd General Assembly were enacted.

Table 4: Bills Passed by the 122nd General Assembly that Became Law

Initial Review	# of Enacted Bills	# of Introduced Bills	% Becoming Law
YES	38	253	15%
NO	196	889	22%
TOTAL	234	1142	20%

The chart below presents the data for all three General Assemblies, indicating that a lower percentage of bills with a “Yes” local impact are enacted when compared to the average for all bills. For example, 15% of bills with local impact were enacted by the 124th General Assembly, whereas 25% of all bills were enacted. Thus, bills with local impact tend to be enacted less frequently than bills with no local impact.

Enacted Bills for the Past Three General Assemblies

