

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 957

(Delegate Montgomery, *et al.*)

Ways and Means

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Public Schools - Student Emergency Medical Care - Guidelines

This bill requires the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) to jointly establish guidelines for providing emergency medical care to students with special health needs. The guidelines must include the emergency administration of medication and follow-up emergency procedures; a description of parental, school, and student responsibilities with respect to health emergencies; and any other issues relevant to the emergency medical care of students with special health needs. MSDE and DHMH must provide technical assistance to schools and develop a process to monitor the implementation of the guidelines.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2007.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any modifications to existing guidelines for handling medical emergencies in schools could be developed and adopted with existing resources.

Local Effect: Any additional training of school personnel needed to comply with guidelines adopted by MSDE and DHMH is assumed to be minimal and absorbable within the budgets of local school systems.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: With the assistance of the local health department, each local board of education must provide adequate school health services, instruction in health education, and a healthful school environment. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) must jointly develop standards and guidelines for school health programs and offer assistance to local boards of education and health departments in their implementation.

Background: The Maryland State School Health Guidelines, which are prepared jointly by MSDE and DHMH and are available on MSDE's web site, include more than 30 separate publications to address different school health issues. The publications include documents entitled:

- *Guide for Emergency Care in Maryland Schools;*
- *Administration of Medication in Schools;*
- *Emergency Planning for School Nurses, Model Policy; and*
- *Chain of Survival, Emergency Preparedness.*

There are also publications that provide guidelines for specific health problems, such as asthma, anaphylaxis, and diabetes. The guidelines are reviewed and revised periodically.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 18, 2007
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