

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2012 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 967 (Senator Conway)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Appropriations

**Maryland Higher Education Commission - Student Transfer Advisory Committee**

This bill establishes the Student Transfer Advisory Committee. The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) must staff the committee. By December 1, 2013, and in each odd-numbered year thereafter, the committee must report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2012, and terminates June 30, 2022.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$32,000 in FY 2013 for MHEC to hire a part-time specialist to staff the committee. Future years reflect annualization and inflation. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	32,000	40,100	42,900	44,900	47,000
Net Effect	(\$32,000)	(\$40,100)	(\$42,900)	(\$44,900)	(\$47,000)

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect*

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Bill Summary:** The Student Transfer Advisory Committee is charged with reviewing and analyzing (1) articulation and student support services, including admission and advising practices; and (2) any other student transfer-related issues as referred to the committee by MHEC.

The committee consists of 11 members and must meet at least four times per year. Committee members may not receive compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the standard State travel regulations, as provided in the State budget.

**Current Law/Background:** According to the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), MHEC must establish a permanent Student Transfer Advisory Committee that meets regularly to review transfer issues and recommend policy changes as needed. The Student Transfer Committee must address issues of interpretation and implementation of student transfer regulations. However, according to MHEC, the committee has been defunct for several years.

**State Expenditures:** General fund expenditures increase by \$32,031 in fiscal 2013 for MHEC to hire a part-time specialist to staff the committee. This estimate accounts for a 90-day start up delay following the bill's July 1, 2012 effective date, a part-time salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

	<u><b>FY 2013</b></u>	<u><b>FY 2014</b></u>	<u><b>FY 2015</b></u>
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$29,581	\$39,863	\$42,612
Operating Expenses	207	278	281
Start-up Costs	<u>2,243</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,031</b>	<b>\$40,141</b>	<b>\$42,893</b>

Future year expenditures reflect a part-time salary with annual increases and employee turnover as well as annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Higher Education Commission, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 13, 2012  
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