

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2013 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 856 (Senator Montgomery)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Ways and Means

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**Education - Public School Holidays - Easter Monday**

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This bill repeals the requirement that the Monday after Easter is a public school holiday and instead gives each local board of education the option of designating the Monday after Easter as a public school holiday.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** None. The option to have public schools open on the Monday after Easter does not alter the minimum number of school days and school hours that public schools must be open.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Public schools must be open for at least 180 days and 1,080 school hours during a 10-month period. However, under certain conditions (a natural disaster, civil disaster, and severe weather conditions), the State Board of Education may permit schools only to be open for 1,080 school hours.

In case of emergency, the State Board of Education may open schools on holidays. The State has designated several days as public school holidays. They include the following:

- Thanksgiving Day and the day after;
- Christmas Eve through January 1;

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;
- Presidents' Day;
- Good Friday and Easter Monday;
- Memorial Day; and
- primary and general election days for most counties.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 1016 (Delegates Hucker and Luedtke) - Ways and Means.

**Information Source(s):** Garrett and Montgomery counties; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 26, 2013  
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Analysis by: Scott P. Gates

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510