

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 428

(Carroll County Senators)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Ways and Means

Carroll County - Board of Education - Nonvoting Student Representative

This bill adds one nonvoting student representative to the Carroll County Board of Education. The student representative must be an eleventh or twelfth grade student elected to the board by county high school students and must be a student government association representative at the student's high school. The student representative serves for one year and advises the county board on the thoughts and feelings of students in the county public schools. The student representative may not attend an executive session of the board unless invited to attend by a majority vote of the board. The bill also clarifies that only voting members are entitled to specified compensation.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2013.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. Carroll County Public Schools can establish procedures for electing the student member of the county school board with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Carroll County Board of Education consists of five elected and voting members and the county commissioners, who are nonvoting *ex-officio* members. Each voting member serves for a term of four years, beginning on the first Monday in December after the member's election and until a successor is elected and qualifies.

Members' terms are staggered. The board president receives an annual salary of \$7,500, while other board members receive an annual salary of \$6,500.

Background: Consistent with Carroll County Board of Education policy, there is a nonvoting student representative on the county school board. The student representative is elected annually under procedures developed by the Carroll County Student Government Association. The student representative has the same speaking privileges of voting members and may indicate a preference in a vote without being counted as a vote toward determining school board action. The student representative may not attend an executive session of the board unless invited to attend by the board president.

As shown in the **Appendix – Local Boards of Education Statutory Authority for Student Membership and Voting Rights**, the majority of the 24 local school systems in Maryland have statutory provisions for the inclusion of student members on their school boards. Of the 19 local school systems with provisions for student members, 12 have nonvoting student members, 6 have student members with limited voting rights, and 1 has a student member with full voting rights. Also, the State Board of Education has one student member with limited voting rights.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: SB 660 of 2012, a similar bill, passed the Senate and received a hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee, but no further action was taken.

Cross File: HB 319 (Carroll County Delegation) - Ways and Means.

Information Source(s): Carroll County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 7, 2013
ncs/hlb

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**Appendix – Local Boards of Education
Statutory Authority for Student Membership and Voting Rights**

County	Student Member(s)	Voting Rights
Allegany	1	Nonvoting
Anne Arundel	1	Full voting
Baltimore City	1	Limited voting
Baltimore	1	Limited voting
Calvert	1	Nonvoting
Caroline	2	Nonvoting
Carroll	0	
Cecil	1	Nonvoting
Charles	1	Nonvoting
Dorchester	2	Nonvoting
Frederick	1	Nonvoting
Garrett	1	Nonvoting
Harford	1	Limited voting
Howard	1	Limited voting
Kent	0	
Montgomery	1	Limited voting
Prince George's	1	Limited voting
Queen Anne's	2	Nonvoting
St. Mary's	1	Nonvoting
Somerset	0	
Talbot	1	Nonvoting
Washington	0	
Wicomico	0	
Worcester	3	Nonvoting