

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1055 (Prince George's County Delegation)
Ways and Means

**Prince George's County - Board of Education - Issuance of Credit Cards -
Prohibition
PG 415-14**

This bill prohibits the Prince George's County Board of Education from issuing a credit card to a member of the county board.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2015.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Minimal impact on Prince George's County finances. Beginning in FY 2016, the Prince George's County school system will avoid administrative costs associated with issuing credit cards to board of education members.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Elected and appointed members of the Prince George's County Board of Education receive a salary of \$18,000 annually; the chair of the board receives \$19,000 annually. Elected and appointed members may be provided health insurance and other fringe benefits regularly provided to board employees. After submitting vouchers under the county board's rules and regulations, all members are entitled to a maximum of \$7,000 per fiscal year in allowances for travel and other expenses, as provided in the county budget.

Bylaw 9354 of the Prince George's County Board of Education provides guidance to board members regarding allowable (reimbursable) expenses and specifies that no personal use of board funds is allowed by board members.

Background: In April of 2013 the Prince George's County Board of Education voted to suspend the board-issued credit card of one member until that member pays for more than \$700 in charges to the card that an internal auditor found to be unauthorized. Though the board member disputed this determination, the board also voted that the expenses in question are unauthorized.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 10, 2014
ncs/hlb

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