

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 850
Ways and Means

(Howard County Delegation)

Howard County - Board of Education Fund Transfers - Approval Process
Ho. Co. 16-17

This bill extends the number of days, from 30 to 65, by which the Howard County Council may act on a written request for budget transfers made by the Howard County Board of Education. In addition, the bill authorizes the county council to approve or disapprove a written request for a budget transfer in whole or in part.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2017.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Although the bill may limit the board's control over its budget, the bill is not anticipated to materially affect Howard County public school finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: All revenues received by a county board of education must be spent by the board in accordance with the major categories of its annual budget. Transfers may be made within major categories without the approval of the county commissioners or county council. However, a report of the transfer must be submitted to the county commissioners or county council within 15 days after the end of each month. For transfers between major categories, the county board must receive the approval of the county commissioners or county council. If the county commissioners or county council fail to take action on a

request for transfer between major categories within 30 days after the receipt of a written request, the failure to take action constitutes approval.

Similar requirements apply to appropriations and expenditures for capital projects. County commissioners or the county council must approve a transfer between major categories or of unexpended project balances. If the county commissioners or county council do not take action on a transfer within 30 days after the receipt of a written request, the failure to take action constitutes approval.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Howard County Public School System; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 19, 2017
fn/hlb

Analysis by: Eric Pierce

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