

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 497
Ways and Means

(Delegate R. Lewis)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Education - School Physical Examinations - Physician Assistant

This bill authorizes a licensed physician assistant with a delegation agreement approved by the State Board of Physicians (MBP) to complete the physical examination required for each child entering the Maryland public school system. The bill also specifies that a physician completing the required physical examination must be a *licensed* physician. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect local government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The Maryland State Department of Education, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), must adopt regulations requiring a physical examination for children entering the Maryland public school system for the first time. The regulations must require each child to have a physical examination completed within the nine-month period before entering the public school system or the six-month period after entering the public school system. The physical examination must be completed by a physician or a certified nurse practitioner.

For each school year, each public school must report to the local board of education or local health department the number of children entering the public school system for the

first time who have not had a physical examination due to lack of access to health care, insufficient financial resources, or any other reason, including a religious reason, as the public school deems appropriate. The local board of education or local health department must report the information to MDH.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: SB 726 (Senator Lam, *et al.*) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 17, 2020
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