

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 971 (Delegate Rudolph, et al.)

Ways and Means

Referred to Budget and Taxation

**Deaf Students - Access to Out-of-State Specialized Educational Centers**

This amended bill provides that, subject to the approval of the State Superintendent of Schools, a deaf child who resides more than 50 miles from any branch of the Maryland School for the Deaf may attend an out-of-state educational center for the deaf. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) must reimburse the educational center for the cost of the out-of-state placement, up to the per pupil day placement cost of the Maryland School for the Deaf.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Assuming six placements, general fund expenditures could increase by \$172,400 in FY 1997. Future year expenditures reflect inflation. Revenues would not be affected.

(in dollars)	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
GF Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditures	172,400	175,800	179,400	183,000	186,700
Net Effect	(\$172,400)	(\$175,800)	(\$179,400)	(\$183,000)	(\$186,700)

*Note: ( ) - decrease; GF - general funds; FF - federal funds; SF - special funds*

**Local Effect:** Potential local government expenditure increase. Revenues would not be affected.

**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Expenditures:** The Maryland School for the Deaf serves approximately 423 students at two campuses (Frederick and Columbia). The average per student expenditure totals \$28,730 for day placements and \$40,201 for residential placements. Approximately 90% of the

students at the Maryland School for the Deaf reside within 50 miles of either campus. It is estimated that only six students would request day placements in out-of-state facilities. This would increase State expenditures by \$172,380, assuming the cost of an out-of-state placement equals or exceeds that of the Maryland School for the Deaf. Future year State expenditures could increase to \$175,800 in fiscal 1998 and \$186,700 by fiscal 2001. This estimate assumes a constant number of children in out-of-state placements and a 2% inflation rate for the program's costs.

**Local Expenditures:** If local governments are responsible for student transportation to and from the centers, local expenditures could increase by an additional \$105,120 or \$17,520 per student. This is based on the current cost in Cecil County to transport one child to a school for the deaf in Delaware.

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**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland School for the Deaf, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 6, 1996

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Revised - House Third Reader - March 22, 1996

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Analysis by: Hiram L. Burch Jr.

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710