

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 52 (Delegate Leopold)  
Ways and Means

Referred to Economic and Environmental Affairs

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**Education - Public Schools - Codes of Discipline**

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This amended bill requires each local board of education to establish a code of discipline for its public school students. The code of discipline must specify the types of behavior considered disruptive and the disciplinary action that would be taken for each violation. A request to the Interagency Committee on School Construction for State funds for public school construction projects cannot be granted until the local board complies with the provisions of the bill.

This bill takes effect July 1, 1996.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Indeterminate local expenditure increase. Indeterminate effect on local revenues.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Local Effect:** Local school systems can develop a student code of discipline with existing resources. However, depending upon the disciplinary action required in the proposed student discipline code, school systems may have to develop or expand alternative instructional programs which could include in-school suspension programs or special schools for disruptive students. Such programs could result in a significant increase in local expenditures.

In addition, local boards failing to comply with the bill's provisions are prohibited from receiving State funds for school construction projects. The proposed fiscal 1997 State capital

budget includes \$133 million for school construction projects. This amount is \$141 million less than requested by the local boards. Accordingly, the total amount of State school construction funding would not be affected in that funding would be directed to school districts that meet the bill's requirements.

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**Information Source(s):** Maryland Association of Boards of Education, Maryland State Department of Education, Interagency Committee on School Construction, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 7, 1996

ncs Revised - House Third Reader - March 18, 1996

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