

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1288 (Delegate Gordon, et al.)
Ways and Means Referred to Economic and Environmental Affairs

Education - School Buses - Charging of Fees Prohibited

This amended bill prohibits local governments from charging a fee for transporting public school students to and from school.

This bill takes effect July 1, 1996.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. Currently, no local government charges a fee to transport students to and from school.

Fiscal Analysis

Additional Comments: No local government currently charges a fee to transport students to and from public schools. It is not clear whether charging students a fee violates the State’s constitution guarantee of a free and appropriate public education. However, if such fees are constitutional, this bill could reduce local revenues in the future if local boards of education want to implement such fees. **Exhibit 1** shows the cost and number of students receiving school transportation services in fiscal 1994.

Information Source(s): Department of Fiscal Services, Maryland Association of Boards of Education, Maryland State Department of Education

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 4, 1996
ncs Revised - House Third Reader - March 19, 1996

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