

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 258 (Senator Baker)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Suspension or Expulsion of Students - Appeal - Stay of Decision of the County Superintendent

This bill postpones a student's suspension of more than 10 days or expulsion by a local superintendent while an appeal is pending before the county board of education. Under current law an appeal to the county board does not postpone a local superintendent's decision to suspend or expel a student.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential indeterminate local expenditure increase. Revenues are not affected.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Expenditures: During the 1994-95 school year there were 85,276 suspensions involving 51,082 students (some students had multiple suspensions). Information regarding the number of suspensions for over 10 days is not readily available. It is possible that postponing a student's suspension until an appeal is heard by the county board of education could encourage more parents or guardians to request hearings before the board, thereby increasing local legal and hearing costs. In addition, while an appeal is pending before the county board, local school systems may have to place the suspended student in an alternative instructional program separate from other students. To the extent that local school systems do not already have alternative programs, local government expenditures could increase.

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

Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 9, 1996

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Analysis by: Hiram L. Burch Jr.

Direct Inquiries to:

Reviewed by: John Rixey

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710