

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 424 (Delegate Patterson, *et al.*)
Appropriations

Prince George's County - Public School Construction - Funding

This bill requires the State contribution for school construction projects in Prince George's County to total at least \$20 million annually for fiscal 1998 and 1999.

This bill takes effect June 1, 1997.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Indeterminate effect on State expenditures. Revenues would not be affected.

Local Effect: Indeterminate effect on State aid to local governments.

Small Business Effect: None. Small businesses would not be directly affected.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: The fiscal 1998 State capital budget includes \$138.4 million for school construction projects. As of December 17, 1996, approximately \$72.5 million of the fiscal 1998 school construction allowance has been awarded to the 24 local boards of education. Of this amount, Prince George's County received \$7.8 million, representing 11% of total funds available. Pursuant to this legislation, Prince George's County would receive an additional \$12,158,000 in school construction funding over the amount already allocated. Unless the State provides additional funding to the school construction program, Prince George's County would have to receive over 18% of the remaining \$65.9 million in the State school construction budget that is awaiting to be allocated to the local boards.

Local Effect: In the last seven years, as illustrated in **Exhibit 1**, Prince George’s County received over \$61 million in State school construction aid, with the largest amount (\$11.2 million) occurring in fiscal 1996. This bill requires the State to provide Prince George’s County with at least \$20 million in State school construction funding in fiscal 1998 and fiscal 1999. As shown in **Exhibit 2**, the \$20 million in State school construction aid would equal the amount requested by the Prince George’s County Board of Education. In order to fund the requests for all the local boards of education, the State would have to increase the capital budget by \$171.5 million. Assuming the Board of Public Works was not intending to grant Prince George’s County \$20 million in school construction funding absent this bill, this bill could result in a decrease in funding for the other local boards of education, unless the State increases the total amount of school construction funding.

Exhibit 1
Trends in Prince George’s County School Construction Aid

Fiscal Year	Prince George’s County Share of School Construction Funding	Percent of Total State Funds Available
FY 1991	\$4,800,000	6%
FY 1992	4,859,000	7.4%
FY 1993	8,389,000	10.5%
FY 1994	7,331,000	8.4%
FY 1995	11,020,000	10%
FY 1996	11,169,000	9%
FY 1997	6,048,000	4.3%
FY 1998	7,842,000	10.8%
FY 1991-FY 1998 (Total)	\$61,458,000	8.2%

Exhibit 2
FY 1998 School Construction Program - Local Requests for Aid

County	FY 98 State School Construction Funding (as on 12/17/96)	Amount Requested by Local Schools	Wealth Per Student FY 98	Percent of State Average
Allegany	\$495,000	\$560,000	\$146,992	61%
Anne Arundel	2,403,000	9,459,000	274,184	114%
Baltimore City	6,903,000	17,001,000	126,024	52.5%
Baltimore	6,412,000	38,087,000	269,054	112%
Calvert	2,930,000	3,292,000	235,986	98%
Caroline	1,369,000	2,443,000	129,662	54%
Carroll	4,157,000	15,970,000	199,524	83%
Cecil	2,228,000	2,949,000	179,047	75%
Charles	4,377,000	21,747,000	203,969	85%
Dorchester	999,000	1,186,000	172,823	72%
Frederick	4,981,000	14,040,000	205,046	85%
Garrett	439,000	550,000	177,021	74%
Harford	2,989,000	6,097,000	193,066	80%
Howard	4,899,000	47,389,000	288,069	120%
Kent	316,000	316,000	266,280	111%
Montgomery	8,126,000	72,683,000	385,115	161%
Prince George's	7,842,000	20,203,000	205,086	85%
Queen Anne's	2,095,000	5,270,000	258,817	108%
St. Mary's	4,025,000	13,661,000	187,532	78%
Somerset	72,000	72,000	141,692	59%
Talbot	1,157,000	1,149,000	411,286	171%
Washington	2,207,000	2,659,000	186,197	78%
Wicomico	787,000	9,116,000	165,865	69%
Worcester	288,000	4,005,000	\$461,193	192%
Total	\$72,496,000	\$309,904,000	\$239,945	100%

Information Source(s): Department of Fiscal Services, Interagency Committee on School Construction

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