

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 74 (Senator Ruben)
Economic and Environmental Affairs

Education - American Sign Language - Foreign Language Credit

This bill specifies that American Sign Language shall be deemed a foreign language for academic credit purposes and graduation requirements.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources by the Maryland State Department of Education, the Maryland Higher Education Commission, and the University of Maryland System.

Local Effect: Expenditures could increase by \$6,000 to \$10,000 for each school system on a one-time-only basis, as discussed below. Revenues would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Expenditures: Local school system expenditures could increase by an estimated \$6,000 to \$10,000 on a one-time-only basis for each school system that chooses to include American Sign Language as a part of its foreign language program. The \$6,000 to \$10,000 estimate reflects the costs of creating or revising curricular documents and databases.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Higher Education Commission, University of Maryland System

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 27, 1997

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