

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 231 (Delegate Rzenkowski. *et al.*)

Ways and Means

Anne Arundel County - Graduation From a Public High School - Community Service Requirement

This bill enables the Anne Arundel County Board of Education to determine whether a county public high school student must perform community service as a condition of graduation.

This bill takes effect July 1, 1998.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Assuming the Anne Arundel County Board of Education discontinues the community service program, Anne Arundel County's share of State funding for this program would be reallocated to other participating school systems.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County revenues could decrease by \$22,150 in FY 1999, assuming the Anne Arundel County Board of Education discontinues the mandatory community service program. Expenditures would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) requires students entering middle or high school to complete either: (1) a community service program designed by the State superintendent; or (2) a locally designed program approved by the State superintendent. Currently, all 24 school systems have designed their own community service program.

Local Effect: The Anne Arundel County Board of Education received \$22,150 in fiscal 1998 from the MSDE to implement the State's mandatory community service requirement. If

the Anne Arundel County Board of Education chooses to discontinue the mandatory community service program, State funding for this program would be eliminated. However, since the program is integrated into the county's existing curriculum at no additional cost, the school system will not realize any cost savings.

Small Business Effect: Small businesses, especially nonprofit organizations, could be affected depending upon whether the Anne Arundel County Board of Education decides to discontinue the community service graduation requirement and to the extent that such businesses rely on student volunteers to perform certain work activities.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education, Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 6, 1998

Inc

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