

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1139 (Chairman, Ways and Means Committee)
(Departmental - Education)

Ways and Means

Education of Children with Disabilities

This departmental bill updates current practices and repeals obsolete references relating to the education of children with disabilities to conform with recent changes in federal law. The bill stipulates that school disciplinary measures for disabled students must conform with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). In addition, the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) is required to conduct hearings for the Maryland School for the Blind.

This bill takes effect July 1, 1998.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) advises that \$60 million in federal education funding could be eliminated if the State's education programs for children with disabilities do not conform with federal law (IDEA). Approximately \$57 million of the federal funding goes to local school districts. State expenditures within MSDE and OAH are not affected.

Local Effect: Local schools must already comply with federal law (IDEA). However, local school districts may lose approximately \$57 million in federal funding, if the State's education programs for children with disabilities do not conform with federal law. No effect on local school expenditures.

Small Business Effect: MSDE has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small businesses (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment. (This assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Administrative Hearings

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 12, 1998

lc Revised - House Third Reader - April 2, 1998

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