

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 861 (Senator Stone)

Judicial Proceedings

Child Sexual Offenders - Public Schools - Notice to Parents

This bill requires school principals to send written notice of a child sexual offender registration statement to parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school no later than five working days after receiving the notice from the school superintendent.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: There are 1,355 primary and secondary public schools in the State. The average school enrolment is 621 students. This bill would require some workload adjustments as well as some additional mailing costs for these schools. The magnitude of such adjustments and costs per school would depend on the actual size of each school's population. In any case, assuming two to three mailings per school per year, this bill is estimated to annually cost each school an average of between \$127 and \$191 in mailing costs alone. **This bill may impose a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Within five days after a child sexual offender originally registers with the appropriate local law enforcement agency, and when the offender has a change of address, notification of the registration statement must be sent to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, which maintains the State's central registry of sexual offenders. Chapter 317 of 1999 added a requirement that local law enforcement agencies must, within the same time frame, provide notice to the county school superintendent in the county where

the offender will reside, work, or attend school.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

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