

# Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

## FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 935

(Delegate Hecht, *et al.*)

Ways and Means and Appropriations

### Education - Public School Libraries - Funding

This bill provides additional State funding for public school libraries. State funding for the School Library Media Incentive Program increases from \$3 million to \$4.5 million. Local boards of education can use these funds to enhance elementary, middle, and high school libraries. In addition, the bill alters the definition of “new local school board funds” by including funding provided to middle and high school libraries. In addition, State funding is provided to purchase statewide information databases licenses; to establish on-site review teams to recommend improvements at public school libraries; to provide grants to local school systems for library improvements; to enhance professional development opportunities for library media specialists; and to establish a tuition assistance program for individuals seeking certification as a library media specialist.

The bill takes effect on July 1, 2001.

### Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures would increase by \$5.7 million in FY 2002 and by \$4.2 million annually beginning in FY 2003. Funding under the School Library Media Incentive Program sunsets after FY 2002. Revenues would not be affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	5,722,500	4,222,500	4,216,500	4,216,500	4,216,500
Net Effect	(\$5,722,500)	(\$4,222,500)	(\$4,216,500)	(\$4,216,500)	(\$4,216,500)

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect*

**Local Effect:** State aid to local school systems would increase by \$3.0 million in FY 2002 and by \$1.5 million annually beginning in FY 2003.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

---

## Analysis

**Current Law:** The Governor is required to include \$3 million in the State budget for the School Library Media Incentive Program for the purpose of enhancing elementary school libraries. To receive State funding under the program, local school systems must match the State grant dollar for dollar with new local school board funds. The new local school board funding must be in excess of the amount provided to elementary school libraries in fiscal 1998. State funding for this program sunsets after fiscal 2002. This bill does not extend the sunset date for the program.

**Background:** The School Library Media Incentive Program was established in 1998 as part of the School Accountability Funding for Excellence (SAFE) legislation for the purpose of improving elementary school library programs, with priority given to updating library books and other resource collections. Annual funding is set at \$3 million with each local school system's funding based on its proportionate share of the September 1997 enrollment count. To receive State funding under the program, local school systems must match the State grants with new local funding.

In fiscal 1999, the first year State funding was provided, four local school systems (Allegany, Anne Arundel, Carroll, and Somerset) did not apply for the grants because of maintenance of effort concerns and the inability to meet the local matching requirement. Two other local school systems (Montgomery and Talbot) did not qualify for all their funding. In fiscal 2000, two local school systems (Allegany and Talbot) did not apply for the grants and three other local school systems (Anne Arundel, Howard, and Somerset) did not qualify for all their funding. **Exhibit 1** shows the amount of program funding and the amount received for each local school system.

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) advises that current regulations base the required local matching funds for State funds on school library expenditures at elementary, middle, and high schools.

There were 1,087 librarians working in Maryland public schools during the 1999-2000 school year. The average salary for a school librarian in Maryland was \$48,921 during the 1999-2000 school year, ranging from \$40,780 in Queen Anne's County to \$57,521 in Montgomery County.

**State and Local Fiscal Effect:** This bill increases State funding for school library programs and professional development opportunities by \$5.7 million in fiscal 2002 and by \$4.2 million annually beginning in fiscal 2003. **Exhibit 2** shows the amount of increased funding under this bill and **Exhibit 3** shows the amount of funding provided to each local school system.

**Exhibit 1**  
**School Library Media Incentive Program**

<u>County</u>	<u>Authorized Funding</u>	<u>Actual FY 1999</u>	<u>Actual FY 2000</u>
Allegany	\$40,266	-	-
Anne Arundel	268,456	-	60,000
Baltimore City	380,390	380,390	380,000
Baltimore	376,316	376,316	376,316
Calvert	53,740	53,740	53,740
Caroline	20,218	20,218	20,218
Carroll	98,518	-	98,518
Cecil	55,039	55,039	55,039
Charles	78,281	78,281	78,281
Dorchester	18,382	18,302	18,382
Frederick	125,881	125,881	125,881
Garrett	19,170	19,170	19,170
Harford	139,416	139,416	139,416
Howard	147,977	147,977	140,000
Kent	10,197	10,197	10,197
Montgomery	453,584	423,547	453,584
Prince George's	463,151	463,151	463,151
Queen Anne's	23,544	23,544	23,500
St. Mary's	52,289	52,289	52,289
Somerset	11,060	-	6,000
Talbot	16,384	14,639	-
Washington	72,645	72,645	72,645
Wicomico	50,492	50,492	50,492
Worcester	24,604	24,604	24,604
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,000,000</b>	<b>\$2,549,838</b>	<b>\$2,721,423</b>

**Exhibit 2**  
**Increased State Funding for Public School Libraries**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Increased State Funding</b>
<b>Local School Systems</b>	
School Library Media Incentive Grants*	\$1,500,000
Improvement Grants	\$1,500,000
<i>Sub Total - Local</i>	<i>\$3,000,000</i>
<b>State Headquarters</b>	
On-Site Review Teams	\$12,000
Professional Development Opportunities	\$10,500
Tuition Assistance Program	\$200,000
Information Databases Licenses	\$2,500,000
<i>Sub Total – State</i>	<i>\$2,722,500</i>
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$5,722,500</b>
*Funding sunsets after fiscal 2002.	

*School Library Media Incentive Grant*

State funding for the School Library Media Incentive Program increases from \$3 million to \$4.5 million. Local boards of education can use these funds to enhance middle and high school libraries. Since this program is scheduled to sunset after fiscal 2002, the additional State funding would be provided for only one year. In addition, the enhanced funding is based on the program's existing formula calculation that uses enrollment from the 1997-1998 school year.

*On-Site Review Teams*

On-site review teams are established to conduct reviews and make recommendations for public school library programs. Twelve local school systems would be reviewed in fiscal 2002 and the remaining 12 local school systems would be reviewed in fiscal 2003. Beginning in fiscal 2004, subsequent reviews would be conducted at six local school systems each year. The Governor must include \$12,000 in the fiscal 2002 and 2003 State budget for the on-site review teams. Beginning in fiscal 2004, the Governor must include \$6,000 each year for the on-site review teams.

The Governor must include \$1.5 million in the State budget each year to establish a grant program to assist local school systems in implementing recommendations of on-site review teams. Recommendations by an on-site review team may include library automation projects, extended library media center hours, the hiring of additional staff (technical, clerical, or resource library media specialist), or professional development and curriculum projects. To receive State funding under the grant program, local school systems must match the State grant with new local school board funds. Each local school system's grant is based on the system's proportionate share of funding under the School Library Media Incentive Program.

#### *Professional Development Programs*

The Governor must include \$10,500 in the State budget each year for the purpose of providing professional development opportunities for library media specialists. These opportunities include: learning how to use the school improvement website, facilitating the use of the website by faculty and staff; and developing lessons and activities in collaboration with teachers to improve instruction and student achievement.

The Governor must also include \$200,000 in the State budget each year to establish a tuition assistance program for teachers and other potential candidates to become certified as a library media specialist.

#### *Information Databases Licenses*

The Governor must include \$2.5 million in the State budget each year for the State Board of Education to purchase for school libraries statewide licenses for information databases appropriate for students from kindergarten to grade 12.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – March 4, 2001  
ncs/jr

---

Analysis by: Hiram L. Burch, Jr.

Direct Inquiries to:  
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510

**Exhibit 3**  
**Increased State Funding for Public School Libraries - HB 935**  
**Fiscal 2002**

<u>County</u>	<u>School Library Media Incentive Program</u> <u>Current Law</u>	<u>HB 935</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Improvement</u> <u>Grants</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Funding</u>
Allegany	\$40,266	\$60,399	\$20,133	\$20,133	\$40,266
Anne Arundel	268,456	402,684	134,228	134,228	268,456
Baltimore City	380,390	570,585	190,195	190,195	380,390
Baltimore	376,316	564,474	188,158	188,158	376,316
Calvert	53,740	80,610	26,870	26,870	53,740
Caroline	20,218	30,327	10,109	10,109	20,218
Carroll	98,518	147,777	49,259	49,259	98,518
Cecil	55,039	82,559	27,520	27,520	55,040
Charles	78,281	117,421	39,140	39,140	78,280
Dorchester	18,382	27,573	9,191	9,191	18,382
Frederick	125,881	188,822	62,941	62,941	125,882
Garrett	19,170	28,755	9,585	9,585	19,170
Harford	139,416	209,124	69,708	69,708	139,416
Howard	147,977	221,965	73,988	73,988	147,976
Kent	10,197	15,296	5,099	5,099	10,198
Montgomery	453,584	680,376	226,792	226,792	453,584
Prince George's	463,151	694,727	231,576	231,576	463,152
Queen Anne's	23,544	35,316	11,772	11,772	23,544
St. Mary's	52,289	78,433	26,144	26,144	52,288
Somerset	11,060	16,590	5,530	5,530	11,060
Talbot	16,384	24,576	8,192	8,192	16,384
Washington	72,645	108,967	36,322	36,322	72,644
Wicomico	50,492	75,738	25,246	25,246	50,492
Worcester	24,604	36,906	12,302	12,302	24,604
State Headquarters					2,722,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,000,000</b>	<b>\$4,500,000</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>	<b>\$5,722,500</b>

Prepared by the Department of Legislative Services, March 2001

