

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 644
Ways and Means

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Finance

**Prince George's County - Education - Home and Hospital Teacher
Representation and Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Instructors
PG 403-02**

This bill includes Prince George's County home and hospital teachers and Junior Reserve Officer Training (JROTC) instructors in the definition of certificated public school employees for collective bargaining purposes.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in Prince George's County school expenditures due to higher salaries and benefits for home and hospital teachers and JROTC instructors. No effect on school revenues.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: In Maryland, certificated and noncertificated school employees bargain separately. Certificated professionals working in public schools have collective bargaining rights in all 24 local school systems and noncertificated school employees have collective bargaining rights in 15 systems. In some counties, specific categories of noncertificated professionals are included with certificated employees for bargaining purposes. For example, local employee organizations for certificated school personnel

represent school nurses in Baltimore County, eligible substitute teachers and home and hospital workers in Montgomery County, and school social workers in Frederick County.

Background: Professional school staff in Prince George's County are represented by the Prince George's County Educators' Association. The association was originally organized over 125 years ago, and won the right to negotiate with the Prince George's County Board of Education in 1965. Nearly 6,900 school employees belong to the association.

Local Expenditures: There are between 100 and 200 part-time home and hospital workers employed by the Prince George's County school system, each of whom works between 6 and 24 hours per week. There are even fewer JROTC instructors. Together, home and hospital workers and JROTC instructors would make up a small proportion of the total number of individuals who are represented by the local teachers' union in Prince George's County. Furthermore, because employee benefits negotiated by an employee organization are not typically offered to part-time employees, many home and hospital workers might elect not to join the union. The impact on Prince George's County school expenditures, therefore, would be minimal. The county advises that any increased costs would probably not result in an increased local appropriation for the Board of Education.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 26, 2002
ncs/hlb

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