

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

2002 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 1408

(Chairman, Ways and Means Committee)

(Departmental – Education)

Ways and Means

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**Education - Student Member of the State Board**

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This departmental bill grants full voting rights to the student member on the State Board of Education.

The bill is effective July 1, 2002.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill would not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Maryland State Department of Education has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The student member on the State Board of Education may not vote on matters related to: (1) the dismissal of or other disciplinary action involving personnel; (2) budget; and (3) appeals to the State board. The student member is chosen by the Governor from a list of two nominees submitted by the Maryland Association of Student Councils and serves a one-year term of office. A student member may be reappointed but may not serve more than two terms. The student member must be a Maryland public high school student in good standing.

In addition to the student member, the State Board of Education is made up of 11 individuals appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. These members serve four-year terms of office and may not serve more than two full terms.

**Background:** Seventeen student members have served on the State Board of Education over the last 17 years. Legislation enacted in 1993 allowed the student member to participate in executive sessions of the board and vote on many of the issues before the board. According to the Maryland State Department of Education, student members have consistently displayed competence, knowledge of the subject, and objectivity in exercising their voting rights. The student member on the Anne Arundel County Board of Education has full voting rights, and student members on four other local boards -- Baltimore City and Baltimore, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties -- have limited voting rights.

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### **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 18, 2002  
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