

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Revised

House Bill 529

(Delegate C. Davis)

Judiciary

Judicial Proceedings

Baltimore City - School Police Force - Weapons

This bill allows a Baltimore City school police officer to carry a firearm on the premises of the school to which the officer is assigned when school is not in session. The New Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners must establish policies to implement the bill.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. Altering the time period during which a Baltimore City school police officer may carry a firearm on school premises would not affect city finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A Baltimore City school police officer whose permanent or temporary assignment is at a school or on school property may not carry a rifle, gun, or other deadly weapon on school premises from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on school days. Other than this provision with respect to the ability to carry a weapon, a school police officer has all the powers of a law enforcement officer while on school property.

Background: The Baltimore City Public School System has a school police force consisting of 96 officers, including 64 school-based police officers who work from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The force also consists of a flex unit that responds to emergencies, a night

response team, a truancy unit, a criminal investigations division, and an internal investigations division.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar bills have been introduced during the last three legislative sessions, and all three bills have passed out of the House. Last year, HB 128 received a favorable report from the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, but the full Senate never voted on the bill. HB 506 of 2000 was not reported out of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, and HB 102 of 1999 received an unfavorable report from the same Senate committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2002
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