

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 462
 Ways and Means

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Prince George's County Board of Education - Elected Members
PG 411-03

This bill reestablishes an elected board of education in Prince George’s County in 2004 rather than 2006. The terms of the members serving on the appointed New Prince George’s County Board of Education (“new board”) are shortened by two years. The bill requires the new board to issue its final annual report on June 30, 2004, rather than June 30, 2006. The requirement that a consultant conduct a comprehensive review of the county’s public school system is also repealed.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: State expenditures would decrease by an estimated \$188,000 in FY 2005 and \$377,000 in FY 2006 due to the elimination of the comprehensive review requirement.

(in dollars)	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	(188,000)	(377,000)	0	0
Net Effect	\$0	\$188,000	\$377,000	\$0	\$0

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

Local Effect: Prince George’s County school system expenditures would decrease by an estimated \$188,000 in FY 2005 and \$377,000 in FY 2006 due to the elimination of the comprehensive review requirement. The Prince George’s County Board of Elections could add the election of school board members to the 2004 ballots with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The terms of the nine voting members of the New Prince George's County Board of Education are due to expire on December 3, 2006. At that time, the new board, which was appointed in June 2002, will be replaced with an elected board of education consisting of five members elected from five school board districts and four members elected from the county at large. Both the new board and the elected board also include a student member who serves a one-year term.

By December 31 of each year the Chief Executive Officer of the Prince George's County public school system and the new board must submit an annual report for the prior school year. The final annual report is due June 30, 2006. In addition, the new board and the Maryland State Department of Education must jointly select a consultant to conduct a comprehensive review of the Prince George's County public school system and the new board to be completed by June 1, 2006. The new board and the State share equally in the cost of the review.

Background: After several years of turbulence, the elected Board of Education of Prince George's County was disbanded through legislation enacted on May 6, 2002 (House Bill 949, Chapter 289). The elected school board was replaced in June 2002 by the New Prince George's County Board of Education, which consists of nine voting members, jointly appointed by the Governor and the County Executive, and one nonvoting student member. The legislation that created the new board also provides that the county return to an elected school board in 2006 following an evaluation of the school system and the new board.

State and Local Expenditures: Under current law, the State and the new board are required to share equally in the cost of the mandated review of the Prince George's County public school system and the new board. The estimated cost of the evaluation is \$1.13 million. The State and local shares of the cost are \$565,000 each and would be paid in fiscal 2005 and 2006. If the provision requiring the evaluation is repealed, the State and Prince George's County would each save an estimated \$188,000 in fiscal 2005 and \$377,000 in fiscal 2006.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - April 7, 2003
lc/hlb

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