

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 240

(Delegate Hubbard, *et al.*)

Ways and Means

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Public Schools - Interstate Transfer of Military Personnel Dependents -
Reciprocity Agreements

This bill requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to pursue reciprocity agreements with other states to facilitate the transfer of school-aged dependents of military personnel to and from public schools in Maryland. The agreements must include procedures for transferring student records, awarding credit for completed courses, satisfying graduation requirements, and satisfying the requirements of the Maryland High School Assessments (HSAs).

The bill takes effect July 1, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: SBE and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) could pursue reciprocity agreements with existing resources.

Local Effect: None. Local school systems already accept transfer students and would not be materially affected by reciprocity agreements established by SBE.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A child who lives in the State and is five to 15 years of age must attend public school regularly unless the child is otherwise receiving regular, thorough instruction at an alternative setting (a private or home school). An individual five to 21

years of age must be admitted free of charge to a Maryland public school in the county where the individual lives. State law does not specifically require SBE to establish reciprocity agreements with other states for the transfer of students into or from a Maryland public school.

Background: Over the past several years SBE has been contemplating the possibility of using passage of HSAs as a graduation requirement. Requiring students to pass HSAs raises questions about students who transfer into the State late in their high school careers.

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 16, 2004
ncs/hlb Revised - Enrolled Bill - May 4, 2004

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