

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 655
Ways and Means

(Delegate Fulton)

Education - Public Schools - Promotion of Students

This bill repeals the authority of the State Board of Education to set rules and regulations for the promotion of public school students to the next grade level. Local boards of education are required to establish written policies for the promotion of students based on: (1) the student's achievement; (2) the student's age; (3) the uniqueness of the student; (4) the student's needs; (5) the student's developmental level; and (6) the student's ability level.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: If necessary, local school systems could update policies for the promotion of students with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The promotion of students in public schools and graduation from a public high school are in accordance with policies established by local boards of education and the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education.

Background: The Maryland State Department of Education advises that local boards of education establish written student promotion policies. Although it has the authority to do so, the State Board of Education has never issued student promotion regulations.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: This bill was introduced in 1999 as HB 24 and received an unfavorable report from the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 19, 2004
ncs/hlb

Analysis by: Mark W. Collins

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510