

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2004 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 1065  
Ways and Means

(Delegate Fulton)

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**Baltimore City - Board of School Commissioners**

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This bill alters the appointment of voting members of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners so that the proportion of voting members appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore reflects the proportion of Baltimore City's financial contribution towards total funding for the school system in a specified fiscal year. The bill requires that when a vacancy occurs on the board, the Maryland State Board of Education must make a determination as to the percentage of Baltimore City fund contribution for the specified fiscal year.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2004.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** None. The bill would not affect Baltimore City finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners consists of 10 members – nine voting members appointed jointly by the Governor and Mayor of Baltimore and one student member. Voting members serve for three years, and are not entitled to compensation. Student members serve for one year.

**Background:** The selection methods and number of school board members for the 24 local boards of education are shown in **Exhibit 1**.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** Funding for the Baltimore City Public School System totals approximately \$975 million in fiscal 2004. Of this amount, \$625 million or 64% is State funds, \$207 million or 21% is city funds, and \$143 million or 15% is federal funds. Pursuant to this legislation, the Governor would appoint seven members of the school board and the Mayor would appoint two members.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 8, 2004  
mh/hlb

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**Exhibit 1**  
**Local Board of Education Membership**

<u>County</u>	<u>Full Voting Members</u>	<u>Elected Members</u>			<u>Student Member(s)</u>	<u>Years of Terms</u>
		<u>Appointed Members</u>	<u>County At Large</u>	<u>From Districts</u>		
Allegany	5	0	5	0	1	4
Anne Arundel	7	7	0	0	1	5
Baltimore City	9	9	0	0	1	3
Baltimore	11	11	0	0	1	5
Calvert	5	0	2	3	1	4
Caroline	5	5	0	0	0	5
Carroll	5	0	5	0	1	4
Cecil <sup>1</sup>	5	5	0	0	1	5
Charles	7	0	7	0	1	4
Dorchester <sup>2</sup>	6	6	0	0	2	5
Frederick	7	0	7	0	1	4
Garrett	5	0	2	3	1	4
Harford	7	7	0	0	1	5
Howard	5	0	5	0	0	4
Kent	5	0	5	0	0	6
Montgomery	7	0	2	5	1	4
Prince George's <sup>3</sup>	9	9	0	0	1	4
Queen Anne's	5	5	0	0	0	5
St. Mary's	5	0	1	4	1	4
Somerset	5	0	0	5	2	4
Talbot	5	5	0	0	1	5
Washington	7	0	7	0	1	4
Wicomico	7	7	0	0	0	5
Worcester <sup>4</sup>	7	3	0	4	3	4

<sup>1</sup>A referendum to change the Cecil County Board of Education to an elected board will be on the 2004 general election ballot.

<sup>2</sup>The Dorchester County Board of Education is changing from an appointed board to an elected board. The transition will begin at the 2004 general election and be complete following the 2006 general election.

<sup>3</sup>In 2006 the Prince George's County Board of Education will revert to an elected board.

<sup>4</sup>The Worcester County Board of Education is in the process of changing from an appointed board to an elected board. The process will be complete following the 2004 general election.

Source: Department of Legislative Services, November 2003