

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 996
Ways and Means

(Delegate Carter, *et al.*)

Education - Baltimore City Public Schools - Employee Salaries

This bill prohibits the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners from compensating an employee more than \$150,000 annually until Baltimore City's scores on the Maryland School Assessments (MSAs) reach the State average. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) must certify that the scores have reached the State average before the board may increase an employee's compensation beyond \$150,000.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Local school expenditures in Baltimore City would decrease by \$42,000 annually beginning in FY 2005. School expenditures could increase again once Baltimore City students achieve the State average on the MSAs.

Small Business Effect: None.

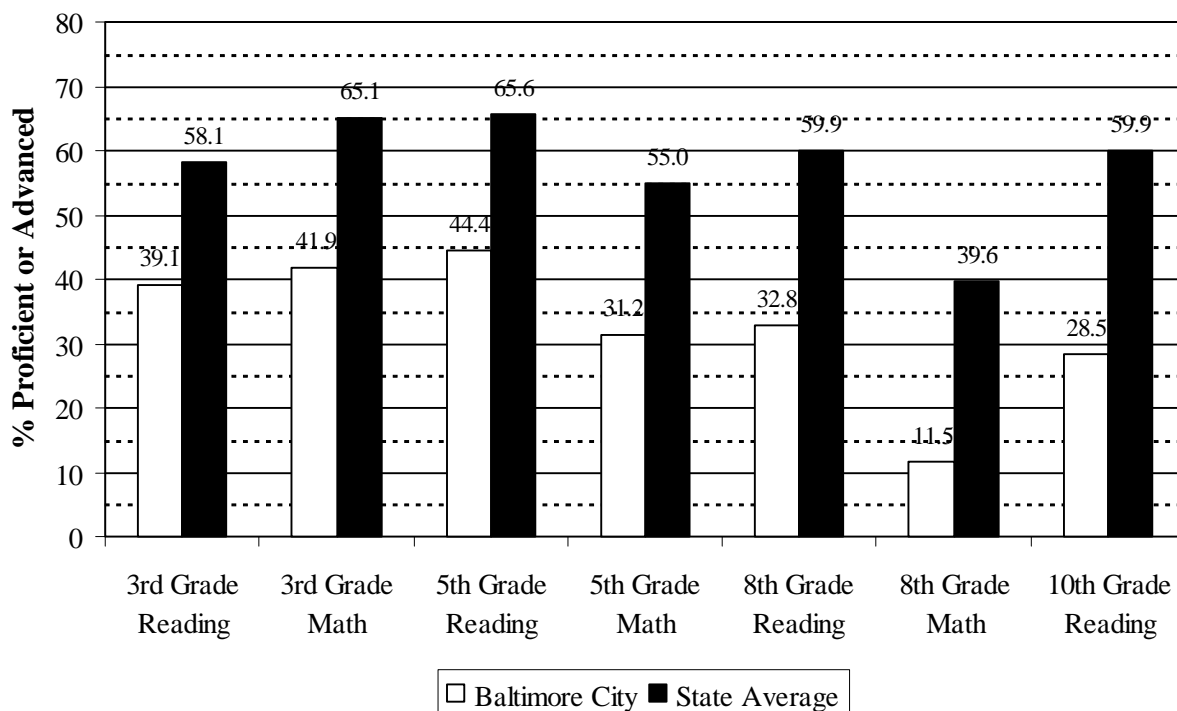
Analysis

Current Law: There are no statutory limitations on the salaries of employees of the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS).

Background: MSAs were taken for the first time last school year, and Baltimore City scored below the State average for each grade in both reading and mathematics. (Tenth grade students only took the reading test last year.) Scores for Baltimore City are

compared to the statewide averages in **Exhibit 1**. Assessments for the current school year were recently taken and results will be reported prior to the start of next school year.

Exhibit 1
Percentage of Students Scoring at the Proficient or Advanced Level
On the Maryland School Assessments
Baltimore City and State Averages
2002-2003 School Year



MSDE advises that the annual salaries for local superintendents of schools in Maryland range from \$99,750 to \$292,672. In the six largest school systems, Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties, the salaries range from \$185,400 to \$292,672.

Local Expenditures: The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of BCPSS earns a salary of \$192,000 annually and is currently the only BCPSS employee whose salary exceeds \$150,000. If the CEO's salary is limited to \$150,000 school expenditures would decrease by \$42,000 per year. The limitation would be lifted once students in Baltimore City reach the State average on the MSAs.

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 21, 2004
ncs/hlb

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