

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 8
Appropriations

(Delegate Conway, *et al.*)

Budget and Taxation

Higher Education - Community Colleges - Authority to Incur Debt

This bill authorizes the boards of community college trustees for Hagerstown and Wor-Wic community colleges to borrow money to acquire an interest in personal property for the operation of the colleges.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. State grants to community colleges would not be affected.

Local Effect: Providing greater borrowing authority for two community colleges would not materially affect finances for the counties or colleges.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The boards of community college trustees for Allegany County, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Cecil County, the College of Southern Maryland, Chesapeake College, Frederick County, Garrett County, Howard County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County may borrow money to acquire an interest in personal property for the operation of the colleges. The boards of community college trustees for Hagerstown Community College, Harford County, and Wor-Wic Community College do not have this authority.

Background: The Governor's fiscal 2005 State budget allowance includes a total of \$214.5 million for Maryland's community colleges. This amount includes \$158.8 million for the 15 locally operated community colleges; \$30.4 million for Baltimore City

Community College, which is operated by the State; and \$25.3 million for community college faculty retirement costs.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Harford, Wicomico, and Worcester counties; Maryland Higher Education Commission; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 29, 2004
lc/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - March 29, 2004

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