

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 625

(Anne Arundel County Delegation)

Ways and Means

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Anne Arundel County - Board of Education - Appointment Process

This bill establishes a 13-member School Board Nominating Commission of Anne Arundel County and requires the Governor to appoint new members to the county board of education from a list of nominees provided by the nominating commission. Beginning January 1, 2006 the commission must submit at least two nominees for each opening on the board of education unless fewer than two individuals apply. Members appointed to the board of education through this process are then subject to a vote for retention or removal at the next general election. Nominating commission members are appointed to four-year terms, with the initial members serving until January 18, 2007.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2005.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County elections expenditures would increase minimally in general election years to include board of education members on ballots.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Anne Arundel County Board of Education consists of seven members appointed by the Governor and one student member. Of the seven appointed members, three are appointed from the county at large and four are appointed from legislative districts in the county. The seven appointed members serve staggered five-

year terms, and the student member serves a one-year term. If a vacancy occurs among the board's appointed members, the Governor must appoint a replacement.

The State Superintendent, with the approval of the Governor, may remove any member of a county board of education for: immorality; misconduct in office; incompetency; willful neglect of duty; or failure to attend, without good cause, at least half of the scheduled board meetings in any calendar year.

Background: The Anne Arundel County Board of Education is one of 10 appointed school boards in the State. Another 13 local boards of education are elected, and one, the Dorchester County board, is in the process of transitioning from an appointed board to an elected board. The selection method and number of school board members for each of the 24 local boards are shown in **Exhibit 1**. None of Maryland's school boards use the selection process proposed in this bill.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education, State Board of Elections, Anne Arundel County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 4, 2005
mp/rhh Revised - House Third Reader - April 4, 2005

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Exhibit 1
Local Boards of Education
Members and Selection Methods

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

*The Cecil County board will begin transitioning to an elected board at the 2006 general election.

**The Prince George's County board will revert to an elected board following the 2006 general election.
