

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 610
Ways and Means

(Charles County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs

Education - Charles County Board of Education - Member Vacancy Interviews

This bill requires the interview of an applicant for a vacancy on the Charles County Board of Education to be conducted by the board at a meeting open to the public. The board must publish applicants' names and the date, time, and location of each interview at least two weeks prior to the first applicant's interview. The board is not required to conduct discussions of the applicants or make the final selection of a member at an open meeting.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Any additional costs associated with publishing applicants' names and interview times are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within the budget of the Charles County Board of Education.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The seven voting members of the Charles County Board of Education must select a qualified individual to fill a vacancy on the board.

All actions of the Charles County Board of Education must be taken at a public meeting and a record of the meeting and all actions must be made public. The board may meet in an executive session provided that all actions of the board and the individual vote of each board member are contained in the public record.

Background: Under Maryland’s Open Meetings Act, with limited exceptions, a “public body” must meet in open session. A public body is any entity that: (1) consists of at least two individuals; and (2) is created by the Maryland Constitution; a State statute; a county charter; an ordinance; a rule, resolution, or bylaw; or an executive order of the Governor or of the chief executive authority of a political subdivision. Exclusions from the definition of “public body” include juries, the Governor’s cabinet and Executive Council, and single member entities.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Charles County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 7, 2006
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