

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
 Revised

House Bill 652

(Delegate King, *et al.*)

Ways and Means

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and
 Budget and Taxation

Teacher Quality Act of 2006

The bill establishes a National Board Certified Teacher Pilot Program and extends eligibility for an award from the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program (LARP).

The bill takes effect July 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures would increase by approximately \$372,000 annually from FY 2008 through 2010 to provide pilot program grants to six schools per year. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) could adopt regulations to implement the pilot program and could report on the program with existing resources. Revenues would not be affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	372,000	372,000	372,000	0
Net Effect	\$0	(\$372,000)	(\$372,000)	(\$372,000)	\$0

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: Local school revenues from State aid would increase by approximately \$372,000 annually from FY 2008 to 2010 for school systems participating in the National Board Certified Teacher Pilot Program.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: Title I schools and schools identified for school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring under the State's school accountability program are eligible to participate in the National Board Certified Teacher Pilot Program. Subject to the availability of funding and the approval of the local board of education, the State Superintendent of Schools may select up to six eligible schools in three school systems to participate in the program for three years.

A participating school must employ three national board certified (NBC) teachers, and the workloads of the NBC teachers must include mentoring and leadership activities for at least one-third of their time. Each participating school may be reimbursed up to \$62,000 per year by the State for the cost of employing one teacher at the school.

MSDE must adopt regulations to implement the pilot program and must report annually on the effectiveness of the program from 2008 to 2010.

Eligibility for an award from LARP is extended to individuals who receive a resident teacher certificate from MSDE after completing an approved alternative teacher preparation program.

Current Law: The National Board Certified Teacher Pilot Program would be a new State program.

LARP provides grants to aid with the repayment of higher education loans. Individuals working for nonprofit companies, the State, and local governments are eligible to receive LARP awards. In addition, teachers in critical shortage areas or teachers working in Title I schools and schools identified as in need of improvement are eligible to receive awards from LARP.

Background: There were at least 428 NBC teachers working in Maryland public schools in the 2004-2005 school year. The State provides funds for a program that pays the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification fee for teachers pursuing national board certification.

The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) requires all core academic courses to be taught by highly qualified teachers by 2006. Data from the 2004-2005 school year show that many school systems in Maryland have not come close to achieving this standard. The percentage of courses that were taught by highly qualified teachers in each school system is shown in **Exhibit 1**. Statewide, approximately three-quarters of courses were taught by highly qualified teachers, with percentages for individual school systems ranging from 42% in Baltimore City to nearly 94% in Allegany County.

Exhibit 1
Percentage of Courses Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers
2004 – 2005 School Year

Allegany	93.6%	Harford	88.9%
Anne Arundel	84.0%	Howard	84.2%
Baltimore City*	42.1%	Kent	75.1%
Baltimore	77.7%	Montgomery	80.3%
Calvert	85.5%	Prince George's	62.0%
Caroline	87.0%	Queen Anne's	81.1%
Carroll	85.6%	St. Mary's	89.6%
Cecil	86.9%	Somerset	75.8%
Charles	59.2%	Talbot	87.8%
Dorchester	56.5%	Washington	84.4%
Frederick	86.4%	Wicomico	80.5%
Garrett	90.1%	Worcester	86.2%

Maryland 75.3%

* Figure for Baltimore City does not include Edison Schools.

Source: Maryland State Department of Education

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures would increase by approximately \$372,000 annually from fiscal 2008 through 2010, which reflects payments of \$62,000 for six schools for the three years they would participate in the National Board Certified Teacher Pilot Program. It is assumed that MSDE could adopt regulations to implement the pilot program, identify three school systems and six schools for participation in the pilot program, and report on the effectiveness of the pilot program with existing personnel and resources.

Extending eligibility for LARP is not expected to have a significant impact on program expenditures.

Local Revenue: Local school system revenues from State aid would increase by a total of approximately \$372,000 per year from fiscal 2008 through 2010. The additional State aid would be divided among the three school systems selected to participate in the National Board Certified Teacher Pilot Program, and the additional funds would be used to pay the salary of one teacher in each of six participating schools.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 458 (Senator Pinsky, *et al.*) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs an Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Independent College and University Association, Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Higher Education Commission, Department of Legislative Services

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