

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 859  
Ways and Means

(Delegate Burns, *et al.*)

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Public Schools - Program of Instruction - Civil Rights

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This bill authorizes the State Board of Education to make civil rights education a part of the elementary and secondary program of instruction for public schools.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2007.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. Civil rights instruction is part of the social studies voluntary State curriculum, local curricula, and is tested on the High School Assessments.

**Local Effect:** The bill's requirements could be handled with existing resources. Civil rights instruction is already part of the curriculum in every local school system.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** With the advice of the State Superintendent of Schools, the State Board of Education establishes basic policy and guidelines for the program of instruction for public schools. Subject to State law and the regulations and guidelines set by the State Board of Education, each local board of education must determine, with the advice of the local superintendent of schools, the educational policies of the local school system.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 15, 2007  
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